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Gulf

X'IIWIES

Prepare for the worst, says prince

Britain seeking ammunition for long Gulf war

By Robin Oakley, political editor, and Michael Evans, defence correspondent

THE prime minister is a ransom so that common-bave to be made to withdraw expected to use his visit to sense prevails." British troops early next month to prepare them for a war that the government now sees as almost inevitable. Military chiefs in the Gulf believe a of President Saddam planning conflict could last for a withdrawal. Richard Chemonths and have appealed to Britain's allies

for extra ammunition. The Prince of Wales also acknowledged the real danger of war in an interview on French television when he said: "One must always be ready or prepare for the

worst." The prince, who returned home from the Gulf last night, said: "Each time it seems we are up against a problem caused by a dictator who has supreme authority in his country." The possibility of war was more real when dealing with dictatorships, he said. "It is much more difficult for democracies to wage war against each other than if force were used against it. against a country where a leader is all-powerful and must justify his existence by spent six days in Iraq said drawing the population's attention to external problems unrelated to national realities. We are, in fact, obliged to pay

3 175.00

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INSIDE

Christmas in The Times

☐ About 15,000 stores were open yesterday, in defiance of the Shops Act. But an index devised by Lady Oppenheim-Barnes of the National Consumer Council revealed that the holiday will cost the average family twice as much Page 2 □ What would have happened had Fred taken the

Scrooge, and gone into Parhament? Bernard Levin re-I For the first time in years

Beirut is openly celebrating Christmas following the reunification of the city..... Page 5 ☐ The price of true love is soaring. Robin Young costs the gifts of The Twelve Days of Christmas at £9,892.44 more than double the total in ...Page 12 ☐ There are two jumbo crosswords today, a general one of 76 clues and a sports puzzle with 103 clues.... Pages 12, 22 The television and radio guide covers Christmas eve. Christmas day and Boxing ... Pages 15-17 ☐ The recession has brought new sales pitches to America as "living lightly" replaces

Microwave fear

eighties extravagence. Page 18

A parliamentary enquiry into microwave safety has received evidence indicating the threat of poisoning from food reheated by caterers in domestic ____Page 3 appliances

Schools worry

Head teachers have told the government that the final stage of the National Curriculum, for the 14-16 age group, should be delayed Page 18

Graham anger



Arsenal continued their unbeaten run with a 0-0 draw at Aston Villa but their manager, George Graham, complained that they should have been given a penalty Page 28

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Births, marriages, deaths11 Court & social. Leading articles...

The prince said yesterday
that the British troops he had logical battle going on. To met in Saudi Arabia were achieve a peaceful settlement, "highly professional and incredibly well-prepared".

The Americans see no sign secretary, said in Cairo yesterday: "The clock is ticking as each day goes by and he does not begin the withdrawal of

Mr Major returned from his visit to President Bush in frustration at President Sadcept that the allies meant what they said about retaking Kuwait by force if he did not withdraw voluntarily and completely by the United

Nations' January 15 deadline. Iraq has repeatedly insisted that it has no intention of pulling out and has threatened to attack British and Ameri-

Bernie Grant, the Labour MP for Tottenham, who has attacked by Americans and other forces, they have told up to six months. me that the can promise that

attacked." holiday amid fears that Iraq as Egypt and Syria did on Israel during Yom Kippur in

Mr Bush and James Baker, the American Secretary of State, while still hoping for a peaceful outcome in Kuwait. have been particularly angered by what they and Mr Major regard as "game-playpened had Fred taken the ing by President Saddam in advice of his uncle, Ebenezer his refusal to agree dates for Mr Baker to visit Baghdad.

Mr Major emphasised while in Washington that any such meeting would not be for negotiations but to underline the seriousness of the allies' intent. On his way home, he told reporters: "I have no doubt whatever about the ultimate commitment to

force". Mr Major feels sanctions have been allowed long enough to work, given the way. Iraqi forces are dismantling Kuwait day by day and turning the country into a virtual prison camp. He says: "If Saddam Hussein does not withdraw voluntarily he will

上出出

President Saddam that they do mean business about using force. But those in Washington who heard Mr Major's ney, the American defence repeating the British readiness to use force to eject Iraq from Kuwait, and that partial withdrawal would not be enough, believed they were the words of a prime minister who had

Officials believe that the Washington sharing American prime minister will have to prepare the troops to face up dam's apparent failure to ac- to expectations that any conflict will not be a case of a "five-day war". However, he said in an interview on BBC Radio Four's The World This Weekend: "I don't think it would be too lengthy an operation."

promised a short, sharp conflict and Whitehall advisers can interests all over the world have said it could take four to six weeks to defeat the Iraqis. But the reassessment of ammunition needs is based on the view of commanders in yesterday: "If the Iraqis are the Gulf who acknowledge that a war could continue for

In that case, the Royal the war will not be convined Ordnance shell factories could to the Middle East but that not keep up with the demand American and British interests and an appeal for extra supanywhere in the world will be 'plies was made to allies who have not supplied ground American troops will be on forces to the Gulf. To the high alert over the Christmas evident dismay of British officials, countries that remight make a surprise attack sponded failed to offer ammu-

> Britain plans to have 60,000 tons of ammunition in the field by the time the 1st Armoured Division, consisting of the 7th Armoured Brigade and the 4th Armoured Brigade, is ready for combat. The main demand will come Continued on page 18, col 4



The Prince of Wales on his Gulf visit yesterday

Israel under strain as Soviet Jews pour in

From A CORRESPONDENT IN JERUSALEM

MORE than 7,000 Soviet Gordon, the head of the Jewish immigrants arrived in immigration department of at a high pace into 1991.

There were times over the weekend, when every available El Al jet was pressed into service, that Soviet immigrants were arriving at a rate

of 100 an hour. But because officials did not arrive to process them on Saturday, the Jewish sabbath, many were put into temporary hotels until their papers could be handled this week. Uri

Israel in the four days up to the Jewish Agency, which yesterday, and officials pre- helps the newcomers, called dicted that the new wave of on the government to declare immigration would continue a state of emergency to cope with the immigrants, whose arrival is creating housing and iob shortages. . "We have to ... create a new set of priorities," he said. "We should immediately

freeze housing prices, and each one in Israeli society will personally have to help." His

solid. On the M6 in Cheshire a pile-up involving 25 cars near chief, Simcha Dinitz, pre-Sandbatch blocked all three dicted that Soviet Jewish north-bound carriageways. But British Airways ing the Christmas break. arrivals could increase to as many as 1,500 a day. Continued on page 18, col 1 The statement, which was escaped injury.

Families

take to

road for

Christmas

By HARVEY ELLIOTT

MILD weather and the harsh

realities of the deepening eco-

nomic recession combined

yesterday to keep families on

the road rather than in the air

as they set off to join relatives

were wondering what had

happened to the predicted

rush of domestic air passen-

gers, motorways were packed

bumper to bumper in condi-

tions not unlike an August

before deciding whether to go

by road or by air to visit

relatives living in other parts

of the country. When it be-

came clear that they were

unlikely to run into ice or

snow, the prospect of driving

to their destination and saving

the high cost of an air fare

began to look much more

This in turn, however, led to

traffic jams in many areas.

"The whole of London ap-

pears to be heading out of the

capital," said AA roadwatch

in mid afternoon. "North-

amptonshire is at a virtual

standstill, there are seven-mile

queues on the M25 near the

Dartford tunnel, large parts of the M1 are extremely con-

gested as is the M3, the A33

Winchester by-pass and sec-

tions of the M25 in Surrey. It's

all due to the sheer volume of

traffic as people try to reach

their destinations before

By yesterday evening some

of the worst jams had eased,

though traffic, which had

come to a standstill earlier on

the M1, was still slow moving

through Northamptonshire,

while parts of the M25, es-

pecially in Surrey, were also

pecially those living

bank holiday.

attractive.

While puzzled airline staff

and friends for Christmas.

prepared himself for a war.

American generals have

nition free of charge.



fident at the weekend that he daunting procedural problems cific forces, not about the would get concessions from in forcing the constitutional the Soviet leader on the key changes through a congress at issue of how much freedom of which they supposedly require the support of 1,500 of the action the republics would get 2.250 members. Even if the under a new Union treaty. He told Trud newspaper rules are changed so that only two-thirds of those present

Christmas harmony: boys of the Westminster Cathedral Choir School rehearse for tonight's midnight mass, their

highpoint of the year. From the left: Francis Gilbert, aged 11, Alec McCluskey, aged 9, and Peter Kinross, aged 11

that a resolution spelling out the shape of the Union, to be must support constitutional presented to the Congress of amendments, voting could be People's Deputies or supreme finely balanced. legislature soon after it reideas for a new federation, Union treaty will be signed ... through. Russia will hand over to the Union some of its functions,

in the remainder of its affairs". The prospect of a Yeltsina new federal structure raised

while allowing no interference

Provisional IRA calls

Christmas ceasefire

By BOB RODWELL

THE Provisional IRA last signed by PO'Neill and indi-

night declared a 72-hour cating top-level clearance, in-

Christmas "truce" starting at structed active service units

midnight and covering Christ- "to suspend all offensive mili-

mas eve. Christmas day and tary action in the British

The three-day ceasefire was the truce applied only to

Dublin shortly before 6pm by terrorists in past years have

Northern Ireland, however, An off-duty soldier of the

are known to be sceptical of Ulster defence regiment was

such statements and sources ambushed on Saturday night

have emphasised that there after visiting friends at Brooke

will be no relaxation of Park in the Suffolk area of

precautionary measures dur- west Belfast. Although several

yesterday. Security forces in all been broken.

Yeltsin is confident of Gorbachev concessions From Bruce Clark in Moscow PRESIDENT Gorbachev to- the Soviet president. Last arguments in remarks pub-

setting out the terms for a reformed Soviet federation. or Stalin. Boris Yeltsin, the Russian However, Mr Gorbachev served.

federation president, was con-

Outgoing prime minister convenes today, would "take Nikolai Ryzhkov, who has London, appear to have into account the sovereignty criticised the new institutions waited until they knew what of the republics". Mr Yeltsin, as "unwieldy and unviable" road conditions to expect who last week distanced him- said at the weekend that it self from Mr Gorbachev's would be a "serious political defeat" for Mr Gorbachev if said he was sure that "a he fails to get the changes

Supporters of Mr Yeltsin continued yesterday to express their shock at the harsh,

conspiratorial tone adopted in Saturday's speech to the congress by KGB chief Vladimir Gorbachev compromise over Kryuchkov, who criticised foreign intelligence services the chances that the Russian for undermining the Soviet leader would drop his objec- Union. He slightly softened tions to enhanced powers for the xenophobic tone of his

occupied area", implying that

Other ceasefires announced

gun shots hit his car, he

day faces a supreme test of his week, Mr Yeltsin expressed lished by Tass, the Soviet negotiating skill as he tries to fears that the head of state's news agency, yesterday, makenhance his own power while new prerogatives would be ing a distinction between greater than those of Brezhnev Western intelligence agencies and the governments they was still expected to face -- "I was speaking about spe-

policy of the US administration, or say, the British government," he said, elaborating on his assertion that efforts to "destabilise" the Soviet state had intensified. In his speech, Mr Krynchkov said that more than 20 private armies were operating in the Soviet Union. John Major is likely to

make his first visit to Moscow as prime minister soon after the mid-February summit between President Bush and Mr Gorbachev. It is thought that he will continue the support Margaret Thatcher gave the Soviet leader, but may show more caution.

Major's visit, page 6 Baltic fears, page 6



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Ninety years ago a Boxing Day boat arrived at a Hebridean lighthouse to discover its keepers had disappeared: what really happened on the Flannan Isles?

Now who was it said that?



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Geoff Brown on the new films, Jeremy Kingston on holiday shows for the children and Benedict Nightingale on the best of theatre, 1990

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Moscow pig's lean time on the way to market

From Mary Dejevsky IN MOSCOW

THERE is no Russian equivalent of the English rhyme " This little pig went to market" - which is just as well because it took a reporter on a Soviet daily paper half a page to tell the tale of how his little pig finally made it to the market slab. He discovered that monopoly capitalism is already alive and well, and certainly

the monopoly bit. Sergei Blagodarov set out to discover why, amid all the talk of hunger and empty butcher's shelves, there is plenty of meat at the peasants' markets, all of it on sale at prohibitive prices. He bought himself a freshly slaughtered pig from his local farm and drove to central Moscow. In the past year the price of meat at

most of the capital's peasants' mar-

kets has doubled, from 15 to 30 roubles (£30 at the official exchange rate) a kilo (2.2lb) and even higher. One kilo now costs a Moscow worker nearly half his weekly wage. The state price would be one-tenth of the market price, but as every Muscovite knows, there is luck or graft involved in buying state-subsidised meat, so it is 30 roubles or nothing.

It may be a seller's market, but there are sellers and sellers, and Mr Blagodarov was not one of the chosen. He tried 16 of the 33 Moscow markets before finding a stall where he was allowed to offer his pig for sale. "No one wanted any more meat. They have developed a mechanism to prevent strangers setting up shop and possibly beating down the prices."

At the most favoured markets, near

the centre of town or in suburbs with

diplomatic residences where people will sometimes even pay dollars for meat, the lists of would-be sellers were full until the spring. At a market in a working class district the next day a crowd of peasants was hustling for a place as early as 6am. Mr Blagodarov was advised to "have a word with the butcher". A 25-rouble note secured the offer of a place after lunch.

Boxing day.

announced in a statement

issued in Sinn Fein offices in

In another district, the peasants arrived the evening before and queued all night to take the first 16 places. No one else got a look in.

Mr Blagodarov ascertained that the key person at each market was the butcher. He, or she, would openly collect bribes from the would-be sellers. Further up the tree - to the director of the market - the bribery was behind closed doors. The butchers made their money by demanding a fee to joint the meat — plus a bit extra. At Moscow's central market, the going rate is 40 roubles per pig - and the butcher joints about 100 a day. They sell locally to the state for 6

roubles a kilo. The best cuts are then sold on by the head of the depot for 12 roubles to friends. The "friends" then take the meat to

market. Having greased the right palms liberally in advance, they occupy the best places in the meat section and set the prices.

Mr Blagodarov and his pig finally arrived at Rizhsky market, a notorious den of black-marketeers. Using his newly acquired expertise, he asked at once for "the boss", paid a "crazy" bribe, and was allocated a slab in the egg section. The egg department head also had to be paid off "to shut her up" - and the butcher for the jointing.

IT WILL cost the average family almost twice as much to celebrate Christmas this year as it did in 1979, and £72.88 more than it did in 1980, according to an index of the cost of Christmas devised by Lady Oppenheim-Barnes, a former minister of consumer affairs and chairman of the National Consumer Council

As Mrs Sally Oppenheim, Conservative MP for Gloucester, she first calculated the figures, based on what was claimed to be a comprehensive shopping list for an average family with two children, in 1977.

She said that year's bill, totalling £60.601/2p, showed that under a Labour government the cost of Christmas had doubled in four

years. She calculated that the same items would have cost only £34.894 in 1973. The Times recalculated the cost of the same shopping list in 1979, when it totalled £81.431/2, and in 1980, when it reached £89.53. This year the total is £162.41, almost twice the 1979 figure.

It cannot be claimed that the Oppenheim index is entirely scientific or reliable. There has to be some question as to how representative a family it is which consumes three bottles of spirits to every pint of beer, and which sends its Christmas cards by first

The original list was not specific about which brands were priced, or where the prices were

Soaring bills for family celebrations collected. The Times, in rebill could be cut by about £25.

calculating the index in 1979 and since, has revisited the same north London store and assumed that it referred to leading brands (including own-label products where available) from a major supermarket chain.

The biggest difficulty arises over the price of toys and games. Almost all those priced in 1979 and 1980 are no longer on the market, and it is possible that the substitutes priced instead would not satisfy the expectations of the child of the 1990s. By shopping around on market stalls, going to discount traders for toys, buying cheaper cards, crackers and chooolates, and buying non-French brandy instead of cognac, it the

The only item in the list which is cheaper in 1990 than it was in 1979 or 1980 is the half-pound of assorted nuts, which has plummeted in price from 99p at the beginning of the decade to only 49p now. This appears to be due to the introduction of pick'n'mix

arrangements for loose nuts at the

store we visited. For the record, whatever their deficiences, the figures are given in the accompanying table. Thousands of cheap French frozen turkeys are being dumped on the British market. They are about 20 per cent cheaper than home-produced birds

What price true love, page 12

THE RISING COST OF CHRISTMAS

		1979	1980	1990
	Turkey, 15lb, fresh	£11.06	£10.92	£16.20
	SIX IMPROP DIES	49p	33p	65p
	Christmas pudding, 1%b	21.68	21.68	22.99
	Christmas cake, 40oz	£2.84	£4.35	25.95
	Brussels sprouts	32p	331/2	54p
	Potatoes, 3tb	341/2	211/2	39p
	Chocolates, 1/10	94p	98p	£2.10
	Assorted nuts, Kib	94p	99p	49p
	Christmas tree, 5ft	£5.00	26.00	215.00
	Tree lights	£4.99	24.99	£7.99
1	Tiped	£1.69	£1.59 ·	23.39
	Tinsel .	22.79	£2.95	25.99
	Christmas crackers	24.49	25.14	27.29
	Bottle of gin	£4.69	25.58	£8.29
	Bottle of whisky	26.99	£7.95	£10.25
	Bottle of brandy	52p	-58p	66p
	Beer	£2.40	£2.88	24,80
	24 Christmas cards	50p	55p	21,50
	5 sheets wrapping paper	£2.40	83.38 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20	25.28
	Postage, first class x 24	£22.40	£23.70	€52.58
	Tove and dames	50.06	£4.84	£10.08
	Parcel post, 4 x 2kg	£3.96	24.04	210,00
	Total	£81.43%	289.53	£162.41

Stores defy courts and make most of Sunday trade

By PETER VICTOR

ABOUT 15,000 stores nationwide do not want to be there are no opened for business yesterday in defiance of High Court rulings against Sunday trading.

Retailers affected by recession hoped to boost takings by encouraging shoppers to make final purchases on the last Sunday before Christmas. They were perhaps heartened by John Major's comments last week in which he described a great deal of Sunday trading legislation as bizarre and indicated he would welcome a change in the law on shop times.

Shopping reform campaigners estimated that 15,000 stores were open across England and Wales, many doing brisk business, compared with 25,000 shops which opened the previous Sunday.

The Keep Sunday Special campaign dismissed the figure as propaganda. The campaign said it had been inundated with complaints from chain store staff under "intolerable pressure" to work on Sundays. Last night David Blackmore, the campaign's operations director, said the group would be writing to Angela Rumbold, Home Office minister, asking to be fully involved in any talks on Sunday trading.

Roger Boaden, director of the Shopping Hours Reform Council, however, said that the majority of shop staff working yesterday were volunteers, many on premium pay rates. "The retailers say staff who

Last-minute shoppers head for France

By RAY CLANCY AND ARTHUR LEATHLEY

FRENCH Sunday trading laws gave thousands of Britons the chance to catch up with lastminute Christmas shopping yesterday.

Channel ferry companies reported brisk business on day-trips to Boulogne and Calais, where hypermarkets were given permission to open. Under French law, large stores are allowed to open up to three Sundays each year, which may be extended to five Sundays next year.

Many of the supermarkets in the French channel ports have chosen the run-up to Christmas as potentially the most lucrative time to open on Sunday. More than 100 British coaches, as well as hundreds of cars, swarmed to the Auchan supermarket in Boulogne on one Sunday earlier this month. In an effort to make the most of the last weekend's trading before Christmas, the store opened until midnight on Saturday and 9pm

vesterday. Although there were not as many British shoppers as on previous Sundays, manager Bernard Dambrone said: "It is very good for our business. It would not be worthwhile to open every Sunday of the year, but many English people want to buy food and drink for Christmas. We are religious, but I don't think it is wrong to do business on a Sunday

if that's what people want." More than 100,000 passengers travelled through Dover over the weekend, making it one of the busiest weekends of the year. Although many were travelling to the Continent for holidays, the Dover Harbour Board spokesman said: "People have been making the most of France's very sensible marketing this month. We have day trips from as far as Scotland, and the Sunday opening gives people more opportunity to shop. If everyone spent £50 or so, that's a lot of money which has gone to France which might have been spent here."

Despite the economic downturn in Britain. Dover has seen a 5 per cent increase in the number of cross-channel passengers this year. Special bus services between Calais and Boulogne harbours and the out-of-town supermarkets has helped maintain the popularity of the £11 day-trip from Dover on P&O Ferries.

good for customer relations," he In areas where local authorities

had indicated they would prosecute stores which opened, trading standards officers were monitoring which stores were flouting Sunday trading rules. In Southampton, the managers of four jewellers shops - Ratners, H Samuel, Zales and Ernest Jones were warned that they might be in breach of the Shops Act after a council officer bought goods on their premises.

Notwithstanding the presence of the officers in Bristol, hundreds of shoppers visited stores to pick up last-minute essentials. Many shop assistants said they welcomed the offer of double pay for working on a Sunday.

Stores making the most of Sunday trading included BHS, Blazer, B & Q, Ratners, HMV, H Samuel, Superdrug and Halfords. Robina Cowan, of BHS, said her store was offering non-alcoholic punch as an incentive to shoppers.

In Sheffield more than a dozen stores opened for business. Portsmouth was similar with BHS, Halfords, H Samuel and Ratner's all open between 10am and 5pm, Stores in London's West End reported a late surge of shoppers looking for last-minute gifts.

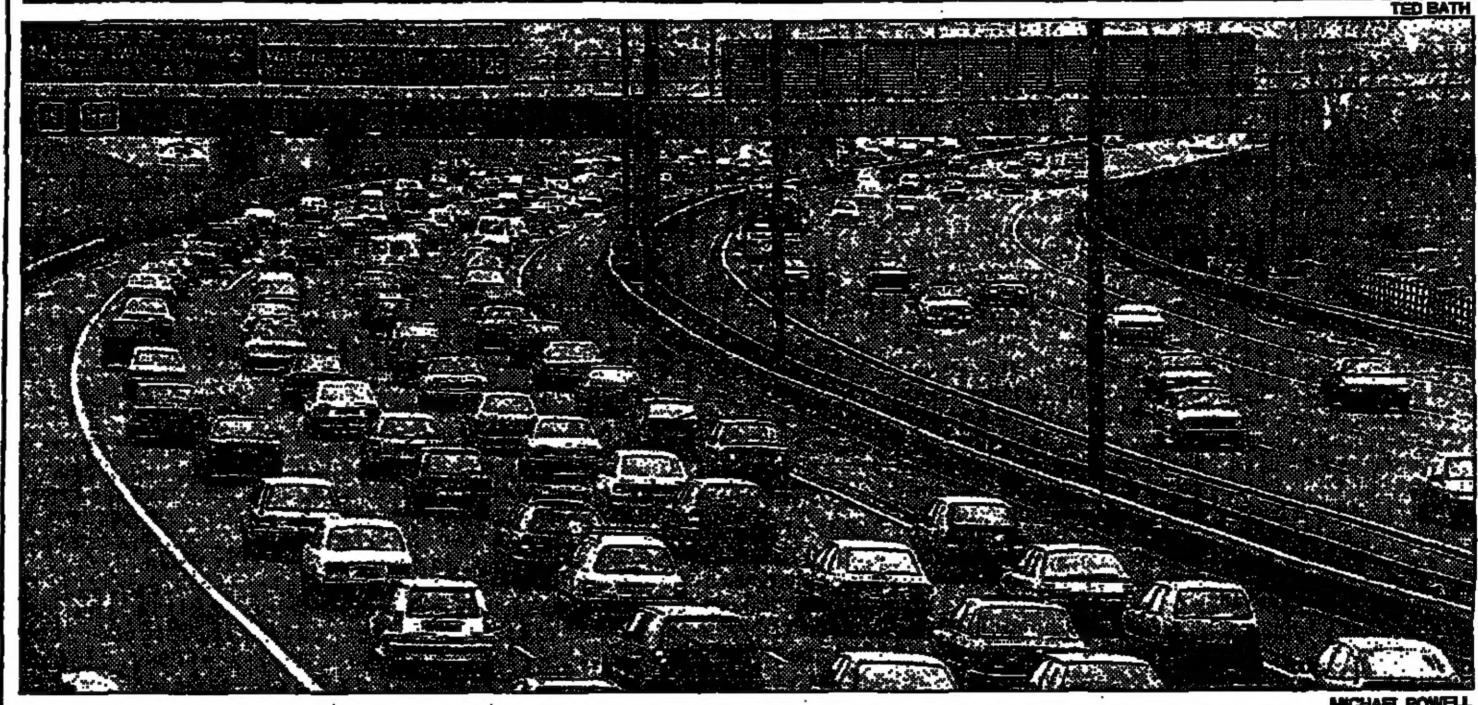
B&Q, the do-it-yourself chain claimed last night to have discovered a loophole in the law. The company argued that a writ sought by the local authority in Chelmsford, Essex, applies only to retail sales. For the first time yesterday, it opened one of its stores for trade customers only. Customers with proof of operating a business were issued with on-the-spot ID cards enabling them to shop freely at the Chelmer Village store.

David Ramsden, group retail services manager, said: "The prohibition on Sunday trading only applies to retail sales and our new concept store at Chelmsford is aimed heavily at the tradesman, the self-employed carpenter,

joiner, plumber or decorator." The company invited trading standards officers to visit the Chelmsford store yesterday but the offer was not taken up.

> Bernard Levin, page 8 Leading article, page 9 Letters, page 9







Christmas scenes: brisk besiness at a butcher's shop in Reading yesterday; an anything-but-brisk M25 around Heathrow airport; and shoppers in Regent Street waiting for Hamleys, the London toyshop, to open its doors in defiance of Sanday trading laws

Calls for random drink tests as campaign fails

By A STAFF REPORTER

THE apparent failure of this year's Christmas campaign against drink-driving has prompted fresh calls for legislation to allow random breath tests. In spite of a 40 per cent increase in the number of police checks and a £1 million advertising campaign by the transport department, the number of drivers failing the breath test has fallen by only 0.41 per cent.

The Campaign Against Drunk Driving (CADD) said yesterday that statistics from the Association of Chief Police Officers for the first three days of this year's campaign in England and Wales had increased the likelihood of random testing. An amendment giving police the power to carry out breath tests at any time will be tabled by Labour MPs during the committee stage of the road traffic reform bill in the new year.

Over the last year, fatal and serious injuries have risen 13 per cent, due mainly to an increase in drink-driving incidents. CADD. which represents more than 2,000 parents and relatives of victims of drunken drivers, is urging a threeyear trial of random breath-testing throughout Britain, which it says would cut road deaths by up to 30 per cent and save more than £700 million in medical and legal costs each year.

John Knight, who co-founded the association after his 29-yearold son Colin was killed seven years ago by a drunk driver awaiting trial on another drinkdriving charge, said the public was P&O Ferries. beginning to realise that expen**Drink-drive figures**

Total tests Positive

Avon & Som'set 310 (193) Cambridgeshire 475 (524) Cheshire. 316 (201) 31 (22) Cleveland 12 (9) 230 (359) 20 (19 421 (545) Devon & C'wali 215 (171) 13 (7) Dyfed-Powys 36 (28) 1,153 (486) Gloucaster 104 (90) 17 (6) 1,882 (2,044) 129(114) Gtr Manchetr 374 (367) 18 (22) Humberside 322 (255) 601 (549) 464 (208) 30 (41) Lancashire 22 (15) Leicestershire Merseyside 205 (44) 41 (25) 292 (221) 27 (7) Northants 32 (18) 700 (445) North Wales 246 (B3) 880 (871) N Yorkshire 19 (27) Nottinghamshire 29 (23) South Wales 513 (197) 47 (17) **6 Yorkshire** 536 (258) 57 (34) 377 (156) 17 (11) 448 (216) 21 (30) 446 (285) 1,526 (903) 65 (58) Thames Valley 248 (91) 22 (11) Warwickshire West Mercia 305 (90) 32 (12) 728 (294) 89 (57) West Midlands W Yorkshire 420 (220) 79 (48)

December 19-22, 1990; (1989 figures in brackets); the third column shows positive breath tests on some date sive advertising campaigns were ineffective. "Experience in countries like Australia has shown the threat in a random-test system

really does make a difference to the hard-core of drivers The transport department's 40second Christmas commercial.

featuring the tearful face of a sixyear-old girl whose father's driving has taken a life, is so disturbing that television executives have banned it from being screened before 9pm, when its critics claim many male drivers in the 35 to 50 target-age group will be in the pub. Special anti drinkdrive enforcement teams have backed up the advertisement with increased breathalysing by regular police patrols.

Officers from 42 forces, excluding the Metropolitan Police area. tested 19,328 drivers between last Wednesday and Saturday, compared with 13,672 over the same period last year. A total of 1,418 failed the test, a drop of 0.41 per

In Derbyshire police carried out 210 breath tests over three days and found 20 drivers over the limit, compared with 19 failures out of 340 tests last year. In Humberside over two days there were 32 positive results out of 322 tests, 10 per cent fewer than last year. In Essex 81 motorists face prosecution after 2,500 tests over mine days.

Christopher Chope, the roads and traffic minister, said: "These figures show there is still a hardcore of irresponsible drivers. They also show that the police mean

A survey by Cranfield Institute of Technology says that many motorists will continue to flout drink-drive laws until random breath-testing is introduced. The study of 1,100 drivers found offenders thought the chance of being stopped and arrested was lower than one in a thousand.

Hit or miss business of the seasonal song

By PETER VICTOR

AS CLIFF Richard celebrates his third successive Christmas number one record, spare a thought for Elmo and Patsy, singers of Grandma Got Run Over By a Reindeer. This hopeful chart smash "died", as they say in the record industry, and joined the songs that did not make it to number one or, in this case, even into the charts.

The arrival of Cliff Richard's latest release, Saviour's Day, at number one, is estimated to have cost bookmakers £50,000. It has already sold 350,000 copies. Topping the charts at Christmas ensures good sales throughout the year. As a result, songwriters tend to keep their best, and worst, for the Christmas charts.

Who can forget There's No One Quite Like Grandma, by St Winifred's School Choir, which



Chird

Richard: successive number one topped the singles chart in Christmas 1980? While not in the same class as Irving Berlin's White Christmas, the idea was the same: find a song everyone will sing, buy

and give as a present. The British, however, are not particularly good at it. Alan Jones, a chart consultant to Gallup, the poll company, and Music Week magazine, said that home-grown Christmas songs are inclined to be whimsical rather than lyrical. "We tend to produce a lot of novelty records, many of which sink without trace. The problem is that we don't have the sort of conveyor belt, professional song writers that they do in the US."

The only really perennial Christmas song Britain has is Slade's Merry Christmas Everybody. The latest version of this, by The Metal Gurus, is hovering just outside the singles chart.

Following Slade's success with the song in the 1970s, bands such as Wizard and Mud, and artists such as John Lennon and Paul McCartney began to produce that style of song. It reached its peak with the Band Aid charity song Do They Know It's Christmas? in 1984, which was a big hit.

Apart from one-offs such as Band Aid's chart-topper, single sales are not where the real money is to be made, Mr Jones said. "This week the number one will sell \$0,000 to 100,000 copies. That's nothing compared to Madonna's Immaculate Conception album, which will sell 300,000 this week and went quadruple platinum — 1.2 million sales — in six weeks."

Councillors move to weed out town hall old guard

By KERRY GILL

LABOUR group leaders on Glasgow city council are to vet every one of the party's sitting councillors before they are allowed to stand in the next district elections.

The move, which has upset the councillors, is aimed at weeding out members considered to have already given their best, though one party executive member described them as old men and

time-servers hanging on.
The party will interview the councillors - an attempt, according to Danny Crawford, the group secretary, to increase communication between the party and individual councillors.

One councillor is over 80 and six more are pensioners. The party executive member said: "There is growing concern about the number of old men hanging on. Many are recognised as simply being

"If we do nothing, then each year the proportion of pensioners is set to get bigger. The party must address the problem and provide more opportunities for younger men and women."

In the first interviews next month councillors will be asked about their workload, their past performance and how they see their future role. Under party rules all sitting councillors automatically become election candidates, though each must face reselection by their ward parties.

Charles Davidson, aged 81, said: "I do not feel that I am treated differently because of my somewhat considerable age. Perhaps some younger members give me more respect. Respect must only be given when it is earned."

Mr Davidson did not think age necessarily brought wisdom, only experience. "People who become too old to do their jobs or represent the people must be put out to grass. When I feel that I can no longer do what I was elected to do, then I will move aside. But I have been very lucky. My health, mental and physical, is exceptional for my age."

Many more sitting councillors will become pensioners during the 1992-1996 administration. For some, being a councillor is a fulltime occupation. Most Labour members rely on attendance allowances for the bulk of their income. One of them was paid £8,500 in allowances and expenses last year.

£100 child care bonus

Channel 4, which has announced a £14 million cut in programme expenditure because of a slump in advertising, is to give working mothers with children aged under 14 £100 a month towards the cost of child care.

Michael Grade, chief executive, said yesterday that the payments and other measures to help working mothers would help the company to keep valued female employees and to attract talented women from elsewhere.

Because most of its programmes are commissioned from independent makers, almost 300 of Channel 4's 450 employees are women concerned with administration or journalism. Other incentives include one week's compassionate leave to deal with emergencies and an increase in maternity leave entitlements.

Killed after party

Geraldine Palk, aged 27, a shipping clerk, was murdered while returning from her firm's Christmas party, yards from her home at Fairwater, Cardiff, after a desperate battle with her attacker, police said yesterday. She was last seen alive at midnight on Friday in Cardiff city centre, and was found face down and half naked in a stream on Saturday afternoon.

Atlantic rescue lift An RAF Sea King helicoper was battling Atlantic gales to reach an injured woman sailor on a Russian ship 300 miles south-west of Ireland last night. Coastguards said that the woman, aged 53, had lost a lot of blood after an accident on board the 50,000-ton container vessel Khudozhnik Takhomov. The RAF said the rescue lift would take 20 minutes, followed by a 21/2-

City centre attack

hour flight to hospital in Cork.

A murder investigation started yesterday after the death in the Cumberland infirmary, Cartisle of Oliver Dickens, aged 67, of Orion Park, Carlisle. It followed what Cumbria police said was a serious assault in Botchergate in the city centre earlier in the day. A man was last night helping police with their enquiries.

Snow odds drift

The odds against a white Christmas have drifted from 14-1 to 20-1 in England and Wales, the bookmakers William Hill say, but they are offering 6-1 for snow to fall at any time during December 25 in Aberdeen or 10-1 in Glasgow. There are odds of 6-1 that Christmas Day temperatures in England will exceed the record 15.6C registered in Killerton, Devon in

Acle sencis

Drong and

eccions [Missing Contract of the Contra

Poisoning risk in home microwaves used by caterers

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL REPORTER

The MPs were particularly

microwaves which are used

PARLIAMENTARY en- the wattage together with bet- food poisoning organisms that welter of evidence indicating the threat of poisoning from food reheated by caterers using domestic appliances.

One study by a local authority showed that 55 per cent of reheated takeaway meals failed to reach the 70C throughout and although they often appeared piping hot had cold spots in the centre. One tandoori chicken leg reached only 30C in the centre.

The mounting evidence has led MPs on the Commons agriculture committee to question the power rating stated on microwaves. Their report to be published early next year is expected to demand better and more obvious details of

virtually non-stop by caterers. Officials from Sandwell borough council in the West Midlands recently visited 20 cafes, takeaways, fish-andchip shops, public houses and restaurants. In addition to

packaged food.

most of the food failing to be heated to a safe temperature of 70C for at least two minutes, they found that 90 per cent of food handlers had guessed or estimated the cooking time. Apart from the under-cooked chicken leg, reheated pies and pasties were the main items to fail the test.

cers and other agencies that cial premises." many food businesses are

which, if used incorrectly, may put people's health at risk." Another survey by the institution found that more than 50 per cent of commercial premises (2,858 out of 5,622) food poisoning from cookused domestic microwaves. chill meals heated by micro-

search found similar figures. "Both sets of results clearly concern the institution as they indicate that food reheated in domestic ovens for sale to the

challenge the Boeing 747.

Designed by Airbus Indust-

rie around two existing wide-

body fuselages put side-by-

side, the aircraft would be able

to fly for more than 7,000

miles non-stop. Research and

development work would cost

more than £2 billion, and

proceed only if airlines

showed interest in the new

demand, however, building

work could start in 1997 and

the aircraft would enter ser-

director of Airbus, said the

market for very big, long-

challenge them and had

embarked on serious studies

for such a project. "One such

project study would have a

passenger capacity of around

600 seats with the capability to

stretch to as much as 800 and

would need to be significantly

petition. Such an aircraft

oped from the A340. The

consider are whether Airbus

Industrie should enter this

market sector and, if so,

miles," he said.

vice in 2002.

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

EUROPE'S aircraft-makers when?" It is hoped that Rolls-

are working on designs for an Royce might supply the en-

800-seat "super jumbo jet" to gines for the super jumbo, and

giant. If there is sufficient ing RR, and its latest Trent

Jean Pierson, managing with almost 400 aircraft

range jets is now dominated predicts that it can win 40 per

but that Airbus was poised to 100 seats or more within the

a range of at least 7,000 A330 twin jet and the four-

better than the 747 com- top sellers. As congestion at

could, it appears, be devel- continues, however, bigger

"Direct operating costs make their first flight in the

quiry into the safety of micro- ter heating and cooking times may be present." The instituwave ovens has received a both on the ovens and on tion has been urging the ministry to take firmer action to stop caterers using domestic

worried to learn that power levels may fall in household The agriculture ministry told the committee: "Domestic ovens are not intrinsically unsafe if used for commercial purposes but the practice may give rise to problems if the ovens are used intensively for a large part of the day as they are likely to take longer to beat food adequately due to a temporary decline in power

output from the magnetron. "Domestic ovens are also generally not as robust as catering ovens and may be less likely to withstand the rigours of prolonged commercial use.

"For these reasons, though the use of domestic ovens in Steve Tromans, the coun- catering establishments need cil's divisional environmental not necessarily give rise to health officer, told the com- food safety problems, the mittee: "The department's ministry has asked the institusurvey substantiates concerns tion to encourage the use of expressed by the Institution of catering ovens rather than Environmental Health Offi- domestic models in commer-The Institute of Food Re-

using microwave ovens not search told the committee that designed for the rigours of more work is needed to imuseage likely in the commer- prove guidelines for oven cial environment. Micro- testing clearer instructions for waves may be convenient, but reheating food and greater they are complex machines understanding by consumers about how to achieve uniform temperatures.

The cross-party agriculture committee received conflicting evidence about the risks of The agriculture ministry's re- waves. The consumers' association Which? said that nine The institution concluded: out of ten compact microwaves failed to reheat the food

The Food and Drink Federation dismissed the public may not reach a tem- claims as ill-informed, unperature sufficient to destroy scientific exaggeration.

push the British content above

the 20 per cent share now held

cently produced an engine that

could be used on Airbus jets,

which have to date been

powered by American equip-

ment. It has long been the aim

of Airbus to strengthen the

European element by involv-

engine is seen as the perfect

Airbus has had one of its

most successful years ever,

ordered by customers from

around the world, and it

next few years. The company

is now making a profit, and

will soon start to repay loans

provided by governments to

help it challenge the Ameri-

There are hopes that the

engined A340, both due to

next two years, could become

airports and in the skies

aircraft capable of by-passing

traditional refuelling stops are

De Havilland doubt, page 19

thought to be essential.

can aircraft manufacturers.

Rolls-Royce has only re-

by British Aerospace.



After the tears: The Duchess

of York with Princess Enge-

nie after the baby was chris-

tened at Sandringham during

a parishioners' carol service

The princess, who is nine

months old, cried for four

by the Right Rev Peter Nott,

the Bishop of Norwich, with

water from the River Jordan,

The younger daughter of

the Duke and Duchess of

York made history by becom-

ing the first member of the

royal family to be haptised in

public. More than 100 estate at Worthing.

a tradition for Royal babies.

yesterday.

workers flocked to the tiny

parish church of St Mary

Magdalen on the Queen's

Norfolk estate to join the

royal family for the service.

An overflow congregation had

Eugenie's sister, Princess

Beatrice, aged two, also at-

☐ The Duchess of Norfolk,

aged 74, was "stable" in the

King Edward VII Hospital at

Midhurst, West Sussex, last

night after her Volvo crashed

into a lamp-post. The car

veered off the carriageway

into the lamp-pest on the A27

tended the christening.

the service relayed to them.

Super jumbo may challenge the 747

THE Church of England has lost committed Christians to other denominations because it has been lukewarm and slack in its faith, according to the next Archbishop of Canterbury.

Dr George Carey believes

ment last summer, Dr Carey, who will be enthroned in Canterbury cathedral in April, has followed guidance from his advisers and has remained silent and declined nearly all requests from the press for interviews.

approach.

In one of the talks, Dr the Church of England.

"Dialogue with other faiths is very important, but I can respect another faith by saying I believe that Jesus Christ is the only way of salvation'," he

Carey says faith is lukewarm

By Jamie Dettmer

that the church is under judgment and has lost sight of the seriousness of sin. "I sadly see men and women in leadership who are making shipwrecks of their ministries through unfaithfulness, through slackness, through lack of integrity," he says. The comments, which in-

dicate how different Dr Carey's style of leadership will be to his predecessor, are contained in three talks to a conference of the Anglican Renewal Movement. They were delivered before Dr Carey's elevation but tapes of the talks have recently been reissued, with his blessing and are being used in church discussion groups throughout Britain.

Since his surprise appoint-

The talks serve as a strong indication of Dr Carey's current thinking about the poor state of the church and they show his forceful evangelical

Carey, who is at present the Bishop of Bath and Wells, says that the standards in many churches are disgraceful. He criticises the bland theology of

Ex-army man defies threat of call-up



Mr Cope with his letter from the ministry

A LABOUR MP has demanded the recall of Parliament to clear up confusion over military call-up after a former army clarinettist received papers warning him that he might be called up for active service in the Gulf (Alan Hamilton writes).

Trevor Cope, aged 37, a schoolteacher, Sidmouth, Devon, married with two young children, who retired 11 years ago after nine years as a bandsman in the Royal Dragoon Guards, said yesterday that he would defy any attempt to call him up. A defence ministry letter warned him that if insufficient volunteers came forward he might be required for service in the Gulf, Germany or the United Kingdom.

Similar letters have been sent to 1,500 reservists, stating that a decision on compulsory call-up will be made on December 27. Mr Cope's only by Boeing with its 747 range, cent of the market for jets of combat training was as stretcher-bearer and medical auxiliary; when he left the army he was placed on the long-term reserve list.

The recall of Parliament was urged by Tam Dalyell, Labour MP for Linlithgow, after a constituent received provisional call-up papers.

Runcie sends peace prayer

A MESSAGE of peace will be broadcast to forces in the Gulf today by the Archbishop of Canterbury. He will pray for their success in averting war, which he says results from "selfishness, jealousy, envy, injustice and fear" (Geoff. King writes).

Dr Runcie's address will be part of an hour-long television programme, Christmas with the Gulf, which will enable troops to make contact with friends and family in Britain and Germany. He says: "I pray that those of you in the Gulf will be successful as a peace-keeping force."

Iraqi threat, page 5

Scots lay stress on proper pronunciation

The 800-seat jet could fly for 7,000 miles non-stop

By KERRY GILL

AS MACBETH found to his cost, Birnam wood did move to Dunsinane but, listening to an Englishman pronounce the latter place-name, a Scot could be forgiven for arguing the point. The correct pronunciation is "Dunsinnin", with the stress on the middle syllable.

Similarly, the Glasgow suburb of Milngavie is not pronounced as one might expect; it is "Millguy", and Chapel of Garioch should be Chapel o' Gearie. These things matter to the Scots, who become irritated, if not heated, when the English get it wrong, which they invariably do-

Now pupils of class 2b at Tain Royal Academy in the Highlands have published a guide designed to correct such blunders. They have compiled an alphabetical list of Scottish places with their correct pronunciations and

ignorant Sassenach with a catalogue of typically incorrect usage.

So popular has the book become that the Pronouncing Dictionary of Scottish Place-names is to be sold to the public. price £1.95. The list was compiled by the pupils from a survey of Scottish secondary schools. Each was invited to tell them of howlers voiced by "incomers and the media".

Kenneth Mackay, assistant principal teacher of English at the academy. oversaw the project which began in the 1988-9 school year. "It can be very irritating when names are mispronounced," he said. "The worst people are incomers and the media. radio and television, and there is a fear that the correct pronunciations could be lost forever."

Among places wrongly enunciated are Dumbiedykes, the correct way is "Dummydykes", and Kirkeudbright-

rubbed in their contempt for the shire, often pronounced as it looks by the Euglish, but in fact said "Kir-koobree-sher". Kingussie should be "Kingyoosie" with the stress on the middle syllable. These are just some of around 900 entries in the booklet.

Thousands of Scots, however, find themselves hopelessly lost in the Outer Hebrides, where all the place names have recently been changed into Gaelic. For example the Hebridean capital of Stornoway has now become Steornabhagh.

Mr Mackay, asked whether the Scots ever got their tongues twisted over English names, said: "Well, I dare say, yes, I don't know that they do." But, when he tried to pronounce the Northumbrian village of Ponteland, he got it wrong.

> Jambo crossword, page 12 Crossword, page 18 Sports Crossword, page 22

Major ready to fight pressure for interest cut

By ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

THE government is prepared ment in his "tough but in interest rates from the CBI, unemployment.

want an election until inflation is sharply reduced, is determined to resist any ecohe will show that he is prepared also to take hard nomic soft options.

government can secure a the exchange-rate mechanism of the European monetary system it will be much more long-lasting than previous reductions and he is embarking on a long-tem strategy to achieve much lower levels of inflation for Britain through the 1990s. He believes that Britain is now facing its

ERM. The man who asserted as range within the ERM and he Chancellor "If it isn't hurting, will hear no talk of renegotiatit isn't working", has told ing the rate at which Britain colleagues that there is no alternative to a period of pain. demonstrate the other ele- of next year.

to resist pressure for early cuts tender" political approach. By the action he has taken the trades unions and its own on the poll tax, on the backbenchers and to face up to compensation for haemowhat it believes will be short- philiacs with Aids virus and term political unpopularity on homelessness Mr Major over a sharp increase in has demonstrated his credentials as a "caring Conser-John Major, the prime min- vative". they say. By ister, is keen to demonstrate remaining tough now on ecothat he can take tough de- nomic questions and by demcisions as well as popular onstrating his willingness to ones. Mr Major, who does not go all the way with America in the use of force to eject Saddam Hussein from Kuwait

He believes that if the decisions which could put at risk the political popularity he reduction in inflation within has enjoyed since taking over from Mrs Thatcher. Mr Major admitted to reporters during his Washington trip that the recession was going to be worse than originally expected. A further drop in the inflation rate next month is expected to increase pressure for interest rate cuts. But the scope for manoeuvre "moment of truth" within the is limited by the pound's position near the bottom of its

The prime minister's target Those close to him believe is to reach an inflation rate of that Mr Major now wants to 5.5 per cent by the last quarter

Rethink on juveniles in adult jails

million the Home Office has | (David Young writes). earmarked for extending the The trust said that, despite network of council-run juven- the increase in small business ile secure units may not yield | bankruptcies, 71 per cent of as many extra places as is those given grants by the trust hoped. For the strategy to and 74 per cent of those who succeed, local authorities took out loans are still in must co-operate with the business after 18 months. department and raise £4 million from their own funds.

that some councils will object, member that the trust is in the believing that it is wrong for risk business. If we were juveniles to be locked up on merely to help those who remand even in local au- could virtually guarantee sucunderstood that Mr Baker is in the work." He attributed departments support the ing a business adviser to spot Home Office.

Businesses of young surviving

KENNETH Baker, the home YOUNG people who set up secretary, has instigated a their own businesses with review of government plans to advice from the Prince's prevent about 1,400 boys aged | Youth Business Trust, the 15 and 16 from being re- charitable organisation set up manded to adult jails each by the Prince of Wales, are year (Quentin Cowdry writes). | winning in the face of the Mr Baker fears that the £20 present economic climate

The prince said: "That success rate is a remarkable The minister's anxiety is achievement when you rethority accommodation. It is cess there would be little point investigating means of ensur- the success of the scheme to ing that council social services | the trust's practice of appointany danger signs.

If you drink, please drink responsibly. We want you to enjoy this holiday season. But even more important, we want you to enjoy the next one.

SEAGRAM UNITED KINGDOM.

US tanks 'too costly even if they are given free'

By Michael Evans, defence correspondent

is being offered to the British Army to replace the ageing Chieftain would be more expensive than the British Challenger 2 rival, even if it were given away, according to an independent cost analysis.

General Dynamics, makers of the MIAI Abrams, and Vickers Defence Systems, the British manufacturer of the Challenger 2, are the two main rivals for a £600 million tank contract, expected to be awarded by spring.

The extra costs of buying a foreign tank, with the implications for spares, ammunition and training, are being underlined by Vickers in the closing stages of the competition for the contract.

The British company commissioned HVR the market analysts to carry out cost comparisons. The firm's conclusion was that with all the additional back-up required for operating Abrams tanks, the overall cost would be higher even if the tank itself were offered free of charge.

Although Vickers recognises that General Dynamics will have offered a competitive price, the company believes the higher fuel costs of the gas-turbine Abrams and the fact that the ammunition is incompatible with British tank shells, could be one of the decisive elements in the government's considerations.

Britain's tank fleet now consists of 830 Chieftains and 450 Challeager is. If Challenger 2 were chosen the Army would have just one tank design.

Much has been made about the 50-called gas-guzzling American tank. If there is a war with Iraq. there will be a keen interest in seeing whether the refuelling supply line for the M1A1 Abrams can be maintained sufficiently.

One reason for the government's decision to delay announcing the winner of the contract was the desire on the defence ministry's part to see how both the MIAI and the Challenger function in combat.

Apart from vital issues such as armour protection, firepower and mobility, fuel consumption will be studied. Although the Challenger deployed in Saudi Arabia is the older model, Challenger 2 has a similar engine, a Perkins V12



King: cited Gulf as reason for postponing a decision

THE American battle tank which turbocharged diesel system. General Dynamics switched to gas turbine engines for their tanks in 1963 but Britain never seriously considered following suit.

Challenger 2, of which there are now nine prototypes, can carry 1,640 litres of fuel in hull tanks and another 360 litres in "discardable drums". Independent figures suggest this gives a range of about 160 miles in cross-country running and 370 miles on roads.

The MIA1 can carry 1,890 litres but the range is estimated to be just over 100 miles cross country and 150 miles by road. It is also estimated that when the engine is idle, the MIAI gas turbine uses six

Vickers also claims that the Perkins diesel engine, which costs about £76,000, is designed to last 5,000 miles before needing an overhaul. The gas turbine engine, costing about £166,000, is reported to have only a 15 per cent probability of achieving 4,000 miles. The Soviet T72 tanks with which the Iraqi Republican Guards are equipped, have diesel

The contract for about 300 new tanks, to be built over a seven-year period, should have been awarded by the end of this year. But Tom King, the defence secretary, announced a postponement. He gave several reasons; the Gulf, the government's "options for change" defence review and uncertainty over how many tanks to

For the discerning traveller, a real bargain at £12,000



nd in full military order, waiting at the side of a Dorset road for buyers willing to spend £12,000

By WILLIAM CASH

IT MAY be second hand and need a few rolls of wallpaper for gift-wrapping, but at least there is now one Christmas present for the person who has everything: a Russian T-34 tank, camouflage green, in good working order, full service history and a mere snip at £12,000.

Leon Goddard, aged 44, a property developer from Blandford, Dorset, placed a small advertisement for his tank in Exchange & Mart and has been deluged with calls ever since. The tank, made in Czechoslavakia in

1944, was first offered for sale at the Stourpaine steam rally auction in October, where a £12,100 bid was rejected. But in an effort to solve someone's last-minute Christmas shopping worries, he is now trying out the market again at a knock-down price.

"It would make an excellent Christmas present for all the family. Everybody wants to own a tank and at the price I am asking this is a real bargain. The price really is right; in better times I could get £25,000," he said.

The tank, fitted with a working 85mm gun, is parked on the side of the A354 Blandford-Dor-

chester road. He is selling it because the 34-tonne vehicle had begun to sink through the concrete floor of his private hangar, where he keeps a Bell 47 G4A helicopter, also for sale.

Another reason is that his son, Lee, aged 14, has become bored with driving it around the capacious garden and wants to upgrade his personal transport to a James Bond-style water motorbike.

Mr Goddard said the tank has been re-conditioned, has new rubber runners and is ready for battle. His only warning is that the knack to tank-driving takes some time to master. "People don't realise it's hard work driving a tank. Very noisy and hot inside. But it's a nice motor, ideal for all the family to enjoy,"he

The tank's firing barrel is fully operational, though getting hold of the 85mm shells could be difficult, Mr Goddard admitted. He said that it is fairly easy to learn how to drive the dieselpowered machine, which is capable of over 40mph and will do about four miles a gallon.

The tank is an excellent investment, he believes. With the models which are being taken out

of service in Russia being cut up. he believes that his model could become a collector's piece.

Mr Goddard had about thirty callers last weekend, including a car dealer from Essex who wanted to display the tank in his forecourt, and a museum owner from the Midlands.

"People desperately want to buy it but there just isn't any money around at the moment. I had one man come here who used to drive a tank for the British army, saying he would get a second mortgage on his house to pay for it, but his wife refused to

Pre-school spending 'going to rich areas'

By Douglas Broom, Local Government correspondent

THE Labour party yesterday accused the government of preparing to switch spending on preschool education from poorer to richer areas.

Hilary Armstrong, Labour's junior education spokesman, said that changes in calculating standard spending assessments for councils would mean deprived inner cities having to spend less on schooling for under fives while better off parts of the country would gain.

The spending assessments are used to calculate government grants and are the limits against which council spending is measured for poll tax capping. Draft alcuations, expected to be confirmed when the annual local government grant settlement is presented to Parliament early next month, would have the effect of redistributing money from deprived areas to the richer shires and suburban London boroughs.

In the current financial year an additional weighting has been giving for so-called deprivation factors in an area when calculating the element of the spending assessment relating to education for the under fives. Under the proposed settlement next year this weighting would be reduced by more than a third, reducing spend-A HOUSE full of antiques bought ing limits for deprived areas and putting them at risk of capping if

they continued to spend at current Armstrong said: "The changes in the amount that can be spent on nursery education represent a considerable redistribution from poorer to better off local authorities. As a result Surrey county council will gain the right to spend an extra £1.517.000 on under fives, while Manchester loses £1,636,000." Most of the affected education authorities were Labour-controlled and had best record of providing

nursery education, she said. The environment department said yesterday that the weighting changes had been sought by the local authority associations and came after a period of sustained growth in the amount councils could spend on nursery education. Over the last two years the figure had risen by between 11 and 24 per cent and the impact of the proposed change had been fully researched.

According to Labour's calculations, the worst-affected local authority in London would be Lambeth, which will lose £1.873 million. The total loss for London would be £15.894 million. In the North-East, Labour-controlled Cleveland will be able to spend £504,000 less and in the North, Labour-controlled Bradford will

suffer the biggest cut of £876,000. Michael Heseltine, the environment secretary, is expected formally to present the settlement package to Parliament when MPs return to Westminster on January 14. Conservative MPs with marginal majorities will be hoping that the first results of his poll tax review will be foreshadowed in the announcement by some measures

to reduce next year's poll tax bills. The review team, led by Mr Roger Bright, the former head of information at the environment department, is working on a number of reforms to the system but it is not clear whether Mr Heseltine will make any interim announcements before it completes its task,

Asil Nadir's treasures go on view tor auction

By JOHN SHAW

by Asil Nadir to reflect the prestige of Polly Peck International will be on view to creditors of the failed business empire early in the new Phillips, the auctioneers, is

planning an in-house view between February 8 and 12 before a £3 million contents sale on February 19. Viewing will be as at a country house sale, with admission by catalogue, price £20.

A special preview is being organised for the fine art trade, wealthy collectors and museums, potentially the main buyers of 300 lots of rugs, tapestries, pictures and furniture which Mr Nadir assembled for his flagship building at 42 Berkeley Square, Mayfair. With the help of a top interior

decorator, the property was fitted out in the style of a Georgian town house, a throwback to its rich and titled 18th century origins. A fine period writing desk gave a good first impression and there was more Georgian mahogany in the boardroom upstairs.

A breakfront library bookcase, which matched the table and chairs, is expected to make £150,000-£200,000.

Among the 12-15 pictures are a portrait of a lady by George Romney (1734-1802), and two Turner watercolours of castles (estimates £100,000-£150,000 and £150,000-£200,000).

being of "museum quality".

Karpov needs touch of black magic as chess defeat looms

By RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT ANATOLY Karpov, the former

world chess champion, took his last permitted time out in Lyons on Saturday evening, postponing game 22 until today. Karpov trails against defending champion Gary Kasparov by 111/2 points to 91/2.

World chess federation rules say that the champion retains his title in the event of a drawn match and Kasparov needs just one draw from the remaining three games to chinch victory. Karpov, the world champion between 1975-85, faces almost certain defeat, especially as he will be playing black in two of the games.

A powerful factor in this match has been the remarkable record of the player with the white pieces. Since the world championship started in 1886, black has never failed to win at least one game. In the 21 games played so far in the current match, however, white has won six games, while all the others have been drawn. If Karpov is to win his remaining three games he must do so twice with the black pieces. If he fails, white's success will go down in the record books.

The quality of play so far has been as good as in any previous world championship contest. Such matches always produce mistakes. and those made in this match were probably brought on by the tension of the occasion and the enormous rewards at stake. The prize fund is a record \$3 million

the prize purse to the fund for victims of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster while Kasparov intends to use his prize money to further the aims of the Democratic party of Russia, of which he is vicechairman. Until game 17 the match was

still on level terms but at the start of game 18 Kasparov made a dramatic breakthrough, scoring three points out of the next four games. The secret of Kasparov's success was his continual attack on what he perceived to be Karpov's main weak point, his black defence against the white opening move of the King's pawn. Using the Ruy Lopez opening, Kasparov eventually exhausted his opponent's defensive

As the match nears its close and Kasparov's success begins to look inevitable a brief controversy has arisen among some of the watching grand masters. After game 19 and game 21, both of which ended in draws, Kasparov and Karpov. known to be great enemies, engaged in lengthy post-mortem discussions, in full view of the audience, of what might have happened in the games.

Asked whether relations between the two were suddenly warming Kasparov said: "No, have not changed my mind about Karpov, but you have to realise that he is the only serious opponent in the world for me ... Anatoly Karpov is the only man in the world who understands chess at the same level as I do."

These discussions and the drawn outcomes have led to speculation by some players that the results were decided in advance, Boris Spassky, the Soviet world champion from 1969-72, said: "It is worse than disgusting. Karpov and Kasparov must have made an agreement to draw. I am shocked. I have never seen anything like this before. They must have decided beforehand."

Kasparov has dismissed the allegations, claiming that the disease of jealousy had infected the former world champion. "I think Spassky feels left behind by the world changing around him. Spassky says these crazy things to be noticed for a moment or two," he added.

Cruel thieves 'silence' blind boy

Thieves have stolen a deaf, blind and autistic boy's computer, printer and tape recorder - his only way to communicate with his mother. While Mrs Jill Brown was out Christmas shopping they broke into her house in Stratford. east London, and took away the equipment which is used by her son Mark, aged 10.

Scotland Yard said: "The thieves got away with an Acorn computer, printer and tape recorder, which has braille keys and braille printer. It is the sole means of communication between the mother and her 10-year-old."

Keepers on one of Britain's loneliest lighthouses, the Bishop's Rock; more than 30 miles out in the Atlantic off the Cornish coast, are spending their last Christmas there tomorrow. Automatic equipment is to be installed next year.

The last Nowell

Coach arrest

A man aged 22 who was arrested after a sheet was thrown over the head of a coach driver has been sent for hospital treatment before being charged by police in Caernarvon, Gwynedd. The coach, on its way to Pwilheli, was stopped safely by the driver.

Sizeable find

The pelvis of a male elephant half a million years old has been found embedded in a cliff face near Cromer, North Norfolk, after high tides eroded the coastline. It will be put on show in Norwich.

Murder charge

Richard Bartle, aged 29, ef Camborne, Cornwall, is to appear before magistrates in the town today accused of murdering a baby girl. The body of Danielle Bunt, aged seven-months, was found in Camborne a week ago.

Out of bounds

A father Christmas had to stop giving away presents in St Thomas's Square, Newport, Isle of, Wight, yesterday after a traffic warden found that his sleigh was illegally parked.

Cargo dumped

Two thousand tonnes of bananas have been dumped on a Cardiff rubbish tip after they began to rot, when the ship bringing them from: the Windward Isles broke down, for 11 days.

Fully engaged

Three men were freed by firemen after an hour from public toilets in the Market Place, likeston, Derbyshire yesterday when the door jammed. Two elderly ladies raised the alarm when they heard shouting

Bear-faced con

Police at Spalding, Lincolnshire. are looking for a man dressed as a teddy bear who has been collecting at public houses with a bucket. labelled "Gulf fund."

Final sentence After 400 years the court 31

Eglwyswrw, Dyfed, where Judge Jeffreys once sat, has been closed to save money.

Bond winners

National Savings premium bond weekly winners: £100,000, bond number 22AP 495599 (winner lives in Coventry): £50,000, 24TL 116549 (Hereford and Worcester); £25,000. 21VZ 584834 (Devon).

"It's far better to A relieve their pent-up aggression towards women through the harmless medium of the male pantomime Dame than through their own furthest and dearest."



The great British pantomime under investigation this Friday

THE TIMES EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT

(£1.5 million). Phillips describes the lots as Karpov has pledged his share of Tempus, page 20

THE absence of common pension arrangements could hamper the free movement of workers between countries within the European Community after 1992,

The report, Pensions and 1992. claims that the provision of pension benefits across national boundaries will be one of the greatest tests facing employers and

Pensions equality plea union negotiators in preparing for

according to a TUC report published today (Tim Jones writes).

the free market. It says that the number of people across the EC who do not live or work in their own member state is likely to increase over the next few years from the present figure of five million. Workers in Spain, the report says, can look forward to retirement benefits of up to 90 per cent of final salary, against 30 per cent in Britain.

Back-to-back houses are rescued by museum

By Christopher Warman, property correspondent to allow a substantial

ONE of the last two surviving relics of back-to-back housing in Manchester, widespread in the mid-19th century, has been rescued by the city's Museum of Science and Industry, and will be rebuilt to demonstrate early urban growth and the appalling living conditions of the time.

The museum paid £5,000-£6,000 for the terrace, called Walker's Buildings, which was to be knocked down to make way for a refurbishment scheme behind Manchester's Piccadilly station. It has completed an archaeological record and the careful dismantling of the terrace.

The buildings will be stored until they can be reconstructed as part of a workers' housing project by the museum, along with two "blind-back" houses. It was hoped that, by professionally recording details of the

building, enough evidence of the

original structure could be gath-

reconstruction to be carried out. That will, however, depend in part on the quantity of original ma-terial reclaimed, according to the The building was probably

converted into warehousing by the end of the century, and has undergone much alteration, including the removal of most of the internal walls. Dr Patrick Greene, museum director, said the terrace was

important because of the dis-

appearance of back-to-back

"People tend to think of it as looking like Coronation Street, but that is very different from the early 19th century houses," he said. "They were tiny but, even so, some had a complete family living in the cellar.

"It was conditions like these,

especially for the Irish, who were

at the bottom of the social heap,

Saved: a rare example of back-to-back housing in Manchester that shocked writers like Dickens and Mrs Gaskell and led to improvements." He hoped the courtyard would be built in the

next two years, but said the important thing was to rescue the building before it was too late and rebuild it when resources allowed.

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which have argued for the Although able to afford the a more effective security sysneed for much stronger latest in equipment, the states tem that would ... shield our arrangements. If invited, they lacked the population and the region against the recurrence would contribute forces, and some expect an Arab-Western a regional superpower. grouping, comparable to Nato, to emerge.

Council members - Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman and the United again. Sheikh Khalifa bin
Arab Emirates — had begun to Hamad al-Thani, the Emir of

To deter attackers once Iraq has been beaten, writes Andrew McEwen, the Gulf states will create their own Nato

The move is likely to please powerless to deter the tanks of were below the United States and Britain, President Saddam Hussein. August 2. We need to establish a more effective security syslacked the population and the region against the recurrence political co-ordination to face of aggression."

The Gulf Co-operation reflected a new determination

Senior Gulf council officials The annual Gulf council said that the group was talking summit in Doba on Saturday to Iran about a new security pact, marking an important to prevent any aggressor from shift in alliance since the six to such a pact, but if invited it countries sided with Baghdad during the Iran-Iraq war.

However, Jomhuri Eslami, build a joint defence network Qatar and host of the summit, a hardline Tehran newspaper, before the invasion of Kuwait, said: "Things cannot be criticised the Gulf council but it was too small and allowed to proceed as they arrangement yesterday as "the

product of an American plan" Tehran has opposed both the invasion of Kuwait and the presence of Western forces in the Gulf, and it is not clear how it would respond to such

Peninsular Shield, a Gulf council force of 10,000 men. forms part of the multinational forces in the Gulf. This force could be expanded, but would probably never be able to match the Iraqi army.

A senior British source said Britain would not offer forces would probably agree.

The need for the new pact could arise as soon as next month if Iraq makes a compiete withdrawal, as some British officials think likely.

Baghdad threatens to take war beyond the Middle East

By ANDREW MCEWEN DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

IRAQ has threatened to attack British and American interests throughout the world if force is used to drive its troops out of Kuwait

Bernie Grant, Labour MP for Tottenham, who has spent six days in Iraq, said this warning was given by members of the Revolutionary Command Council.

"If the Iraqis are attacked by Americans and other forces, they have told me that they can promise that the war will not be confined to the Middle East but that American and British interests anywhere in the world will be attacked," he said, speaking in Amman after leaving Baghdad.

An American report on Saturday said Iraq and Libya had agents in place ready to attack American and British targets in the Middle East, Europe and the United States in the event of war. US News and World Report, a weekly magazine, added that underground cells of Islamic extremists were believed to be active in some US cities.

The warning coincided with belligerent remarks by both Iraqi and American officials. Lieutenant-General Saadi Tuma Abbas, the new Iraqi defence minister, said Iraqi troops were ready to "crush any aggression".

"(Richard) Cheney and his aides will see how the land will burn under their feet not only in Iraq but ... also in eastern Saudi Arabia, which will be set ablaze by Saudi warriors and our Arab people afflicted by the treachery of (Saudi Arabian King) Fahd," he said.

Mr Cheney, the American defence secretary, said in Dhahran that the clock was ticking towards war, with no sign of an Iraqi withdrawal. American forces were expected to increase from nearly 300,000 to 430,000 soon, and would be ready to fight on orders from President Bush. Iraqi forces in Kuwait are estimated at 510,000 out of a

total of one million. American troops will be on a high state of alert during Christmas because of fears that Iraq may mount a surprise attack. Egypt and Syria attacked Israel during Yom Kippur, a Jewish holiday, in

October 1973. Earlier Mr Cheney warned Iraq that if it used chemical weapons the American response would be "overwhelming". However, Saadi Mehdi Saleh, Speaker of the Iraqi parliament, said chemical weapons would be used and compared their effectiveness to that of nuclear weapons.

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Finger on the pulse: Cheney, the American defence secretary, says the clock is ticking towards war

sures included mass evacuation exercises and the Senor González said President publication of updated advice Saddam had a certain willingon bomb shelters and a black- ness to pull out". out, as well as a warning to schoolchildren to run for

Washington. He and General Joint Chiefs of Staff, are to report to President Bush today on the readiness of American

eries and colleges to close if pied Kuwait. Speaking to reporters after meeting Presi-Other civil defence mea- dent Chadli Benjedid of Algeria in Madrid on Saturday,

El País, the Madrid daily newspaper, said Senor González was more optimistic Mr Cheney later flew to than Mr Chadli about a Cairo for talks with President negotiated settlement. The Al-Mubarak before returning to gerian news agency APS quoted Mr Chadli as saying Colin Powell, chairman of the that Algeria had not received any mandate and had no peace plan.

His visit was part of a oneweek tour of nine countries to Felipe González, prime seek support for a peaceful minister of Spain, was re- solution. He also met the Pope ported to have said that he had and spent Saturday night in hour meeting with King

received some signals that Rabat, where he had a five-Iraq was considering with-Iraq ordered all schools, nurs- drawing its forces from occu- Hassan of Morocco. Christmas rediscovered as guns are stilled in Beirut

From ALI JABER IN BEIRUT

be thud of explosions has faded into the jingling of Christmas bells, while the soot-stained and shell-pocked streets of this city are now glittering with red, white and green ornaments. Even the Muslim fundamentalist Hezbollah, which banned Christmas celebrations during its reign over Beirut between 1984 and 1987, has hung baubles and banners on its headquarters in Amra Street, citing Koranic verses praising Jesus Christ as "the prophet of love and compassion".

Christmas trees line the streets of the commercial Hamra district, while Santas hand out gifts and mistletoe to children. Wafic Hamadeh, a toy seller, says that the highest-selling toy this year is an electronic educational game that enables children to learn geography and history at the press of a button. In past years, plastic replicas of MiG 16s, tanks and cannon were the hotiest items on display in the windows.

"We have been yearning for peace after years of oppression by the militias," said Khalil Azar, owner of a boutique in Hamra. "We could never celebrate becuse of the bombs." Families that were separated by the enforced division of Beirut along religious lines are reunited for their first Christmas in 15 years. Marilyn Naoum, a Christian married to a Muslim resident of

west Beirut, has invited her younger brother from east Beirut to join them to sing carols on Christmas Eve.

Many Muslim families, relieved of sectarian hatred, are joining in the Christian celebrations. "It is fun for our children and a great relief for us," said Fatima Kurd. a Muslim mother buying presents for her 10-year-old son.

But the deteriorating economic situation in Lebanon means that few families are able to afford to spend lavishly, and some Christian families have had to replace the traditional turkey with a less expensive meal of beans and lettuce salad. Mrs Youmna Hamaty said she paid around £75 for the ingredients for her dinner - too costly for the average Lebanese earning less than £40 a month.

Beirut's Maronite bishop, Khalil Abi-Nader, said that Lebanon would celebrate Christmas this year despite the economic situation. "We have experienced all kinds of killings, sufferings and hatreds during the war years," he said. "It is time we enjoyed peace." The bishop said that his church would hold midnight Mass on Christmas Eve. The ritual had been replaced during wartime by afternoon

prayers.

Bernard Levin, page 8 Leading article, letters, page 9 Life and Times, page 12

Germany looks into Iraq links of firms

The German government is investigating 50 companies, whose names were provided by the American embassy last week, for allegedly violating the United Nations trade embargo against Iraq (A Correspondent writes from Bonn).

Dieter Vogel, a government spokesman, said that the authorities had so far found no evidence that companies were breaking the UN resolution, adding that the list contained partly wrong information. Investigations were continuing, he added.

Der Spiegel, the weekly news magazine, reports that American intelligence services compiled the list after surveillance of all telephone and facsimile communications from Iraq to foreign countries. US embassy officials in Bonn declined to comment, but Herr Vogel confirmed the list was in the hands of the economics ministry.

Der Spiegel said the CIA observed that German businessmen from MAN, the technology giant, and from Bielefelder Gildemeister Projecta GmbH, builder of the largest military research centre in Iraq, travelled to Baghdad through Jordan as recently as two weeks ago.

Blood flown to Saudi Arabia

Hundreds of units of blood from donors are being flown to a British military field hospital in Saudi Arabia in preparation for casualties if war begins in the Gulf (Thomson Prentice writes).

The National Blood Transfusion Service confirmed yesterday that supplies have been sent regularly for at least a month. The service intends to open emergency centres for donors throughout Britain if extra supplies should become necessary. The plans stop short of a nationwide appeal for blood, because of confidence that there would be a spontaneous response from the public.

Sailors grieve

Jerusalem - Thousands of crewmen of the American aircraft carrier Saratoga stood at attention at a shipboard memorial service for 20 of their comrades who drowned in a ferry accident. The Israelirun ferry Tuvia sank early on Saturday while carrying about a hundred sailors back to the Saratoga, anchored off Haifa for the Christmas holiday. The cause of the accident is still not clear.

Suez plot claim

Ismailiya - Egypt has tightened security at the Suez Canal after learning of a plot to block it if a Gulf war breaks out, security sources said yesterday. They had received warnings that ships carrying cement might be scuttled or dump their cargo in the waterway with the aim of preventing reinforcements and supplies from reaching the multinational forces arrayed against Iraq. (Reuter)

Convert hanged

An Iranian Protestant activist has been executed in the northeast of the country on charges of apostasy. Hussein Sudmand, born a Muslim, was hanged in Mashhad because he had distributed leastets preaching Pentecostalist Christianity (Hazhir Teimourian writes). Under Islamic law, Muslims are not permitted to renounce their religion. He leaves a wife and four children.

Top editor dies

Jerusalem - Gershom Gustav Schocken, the veteran editor of the respected Israeli daily Haaretz and one of the country's most acclaimed journalists, has died, aged 78, after a prolonged illness. Germanborn Mr Schocken, who had been editor since 1939, died at Shiba Hospital in Tel Aviv from what Haaretz described as a "malignant disease" which was diagnosed a year ago (AP).

Gulf states plan defence pact ITS BIGGER THAN A SALE! IT ONLY HAPPENS ONCE A YEAR

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Cambodians

WINdace

Czechoslovakia braces itself for invasion of Soviet migrants

Nemecke, a rural border crossing between eastern Czechoslovakia and the Ukraine, a company of Soviet army transport drivers musters for roll call in a parking area. Thirty yards away a white Soviet tour coach stands at the border gate. As their army withdraws from the Warsaw Pact countries. Soviet troops are mov-

ing east. But, as fears grow of civil unrest, famine and economic collapse in the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia is taking new measures to prepare for an onslaught of Soviet citizens moving west in search of better hiving conditions. Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland and Finland are the new frontline states, facing the prospect of a wholesale movement of the Soviet population. Already Czechoslovakia is preparing refu-

gee camps and has established the legal principle of political asylum, an unheard of concept during 42 years of Communist rule.

This week, too, the government announced that it would finance housing for 3,000 refugees and conduct more talks with Hungary and Poland on co-ordinating border policy as a protection against a wave of refugees. But on the border there is little to stop the Soviet migrants from coming, and little to welcome them if they do.

On the Czech side of the border there is little to stop Soviet citizens from moving west. Along the 60mile frontier with the Soviet Union Czechoslovakia has only several thousand border guards who were recently reinforced, amid great ballyhoo, by a 200strong company.

In nearby Michalovce, a market

With civil war or economic collapse no longer impossible in the Soviet Union, Peter Green looks at the prospects for a westward flood of economic refugees

town of 38,000 souls on the eastern edge of Czechoslovakia's Slovak republic, Soviet shoppers have been a common sight for many years. "We have five to seven tour buses full of Soviets each day, especially on Tuesday and Friday, which is market day here," Milan Pichanic, a district sub-prefect, said.

He said his district of 111,000 people was woefully unprepared to cope with a flood of Soviet migrants. "We don't expect the very poor people or beggars, we think it will be people looking for

work, to send money home to the Soviet Union, but still, we have no buildings or camps here. What they have planned so far is a ridiculous number compared to the number of people who could come," he added.

So far Czechosiovakia has said that all Soviet citizens applying for entry to Czechoslovakia wili need visas and will be screened at the border to see if they have enough money to support themselves and are likely to return home.

But Slovak police have already been ordered to accept asylum

requests from Soviet citizens and others at all local police stations. Official sources in Czechoslovakia have so far played down the numbers involved, but West European diplomats in Prague say a flood of Soviet migrants is highly likely. "Certainly the possibility exists. If you look to Polanc, as soon as it was possible to travel there, hundreds of thousands of Poles went west to work," one diplomat said. "But whether we will see families with their grandmothers and suitcases piled up on donkey carts, that is unlikely unless there is a major crisis like war or complete economic collapse." But, he added, neither war nor economic collapse were any

longer beyond possibility. Already the Soviet shoppers have a reputation. The owner of a recently opened private electron-

ics shop said: "The Soviets will buy anything in great quantity. They don't ask about the price, just how many. Anything they find they buy."

At Michalovce's Dargov department store, most shoppers are from the Soviet Union. Until the end of the year they are able to exchange roubles for crowns through Soviet and Czech banks for five times the black market rate.

· Jozef Kurocka, manager of the shop's fabric department, said: "They buy everything, and when they don't have enough money they sell watches, Christmas ornaments, linens and synthetic housecoats. But these are day trips, so the women have no time to sell their bodies for merchandise.

In Prague, Jiri Krizan, President Havel's military and security af-

fairs adviser, said Czechoslovakia was genuinely worried about the prospect of a flood of Soviet refugees and was working fast to prepare itself. But he admitted that in a hard winter and painful economic reforms, Czechosłovakia cannot afford to have hundreds of thousands of Soviet

migrants camped on its territory. He said the country might take a leaf from Italy's book on dealing with refugees and try to integrate them into society, rather than building refugee camps.

"In no case", he said, would Czechoslovakia open its border with the Soviet Union. But, be added. Czechoslovakia would not shun its humanitarian obligations. "Tens of thousands of our refugees were given refuge in the West, so we have a moral duty to help others, too," he added.

Major ready to exercise his skills in Moscow soon

By ANDREW McEwen, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

JOHN Major expects to make his first visit to Moscow as prime minister soon, boosting hopes that Britain's status in world affairs may remain relatively high after the leadership change.

He faces a greater test of his diplomatic skills there than he did in Washington, where the background to Margaret Thatcher's resignation is better understood than it was at first.

Her departure caused bewilderment in Moscow, where she was highly respected. Fewer people were aware that her position in British politics was less secure than her role as a stateswoman implied. It cannot be assumed that Moscow will try as hard as Washington to help Mr Major establish himself.

He is expected to continue Mrs Thatcher's support for President Gorbachev, but may show more caution. The resignation of Eduard Shevardnadze as Soviet foreign minister has emphasised fears that Mr Gorbachev's powers

Sex ousts politics in weary Latvia

From BRUCE CLARK IN MOSCOW

IF TANKS do roll down the streets of Riga, Latvia's Hanseatic capital, historians of the future may observe with puzzlement that the local independence movement spent its last days talking about sex rather than politics.

In one of the most bizarre developments among nationalist movements in the Soviet Union, the editors of the Latvian Popular Front's excellent political weekly Baltiskoye Vremya, have branched out into what they call sophisticated erotica. "Everything about politics has already been said," explained Vladimir Linderman, a quiet, courteous, young man who recently launched Esho in the hope of establishing it as a profitable bimonthly that will help to finance the main paper.

The publication aims, with uneven success, to be witty and sexological rather than pornographic: the first issue includes an interview with Nancy Friday, the American chronicler of sexual fantasy, an extract from her writings, and a serious item on a secret gay rights group.

There is also an innocent enough article (except in a Soviet context) on the private life of Lenin, a horrific story of a woman who kills herself after being used for sexual experiments, and a spoof classified advertisement based on the story of Lolita, "Man, 50, seeks girl 12-14", which would not appeal to everyone's

sense of humour. The publication of anything so unbearably light by the independence movements of Catholic Lithuania, or even of Protestant Estonia, is hard to imagine. But as the Baltic republics brace for the possibility of repression by the Soviet army, snuffing out the patriotic flames that have burned so brilliantly over the last three years, certain themes seem to be common to the mood of all three republics.

Phenomena like Esho are only one response to a much wider weariness with politics and a renewed concern with private affairs, be they sexual or financial.

@ BONN: The Soviet army is confused about its future role but is far from considering a military takeover in the Soviet Union, Nato's top commander in Europe

said yesterday. "I think the army is following (President) Gorbachey's instructions at the moment and also there is no hint of a military putsch," US General John Galvin told Welt am Sonntag. He added that the country was facing a dangerous winter and needed urgent economic aid. (Reuter)

are becoming excessive. If, as many fear, he puts the reform process aside to regain the support of the centre-right, or if he is overthrown, the West would have to reconsider its attitude.

Mr Major may hint that British support would remain strong so long as Mr Gorbachev continues to show restraint. If he uses military force to prevent the Baltic republics from seceding, the government will face a dilemma. A senior source made it clear that Britain could not ignore such a development, and might withdraw support for Western aid to

Just before Mrs Thatcher left office, there was talk of her meeting Mr Gorbachev by the end of the year to sign an Anglo-Soviet friendship agreement. The agreement had been requested by Moscow as a way of demonstrating a new relationship after the Cold War era. Britain did not object, but is thought to have insisted that it should be an agreement rather than a legallybinding treaty. A senior source said that the agreement presented "no problem", which showed that the government's attitude had not been affected by Mrs Thatcher's departure.

The tone changed soon after Mr Shevardnadze's resignation. Another source said that the government had taken no decision on such an agreement, implying that date. Mr Gorbachev will probably expect Mr Major to sign it during his first visit, which makes it important that the Foreign Office should assess correctly which way Mr Gorbachev is heading.

No date has been fixed for Mr Major's visit, but the government is thought to prefer March, when the outcome of the summit in mid-February between President Bush and President Gorbachev will be known.

Anglo-Soviet ties since 1985 have mirrored the warmth and argumentativeness of Mrs Thatcher's relationship with Mr Gorbachev. Her departure does not necessarily mean an Anglo-Soviet cooling, as both Mr Gorbachev and Mr Major have an interest in preserving the closeness, but their contacts seem certain to be less

• PARIS: The Prince of Wales said in an interview on French television yesterday that society should strike a balance between the ideals of communism and capitalism.

"I do not think one should consider this collapse of an ideology as the death of communism and the triumph of capitalism," the prince told France's TF1 television channel, referring to recent events in East Europe.

"Today we must conceive a way to develop our perception of life, once again, as an equilibrium between the two (ideologies). We need capitalism but perhaps with a more human face," the prince said. (Reuter)



it good luck to touch a lamb in the days before Christmas

Albania reformist gets key job as 15,000 attend protest rally

By OUR FOREIGN STAFF

ALBANIA has named a young reformist to a top government post in a wide-ranging economic reshuffle that follows the end of stalinism and the founding of the first opposition party.

State television announced on Saturday night that Fatos Nano. an economic adviser to the communist party's central committee, had been appointed general secretary to the government and that the finance minister, Andrea Nako, had been replaced.

Cries of "freedom" and "democracy" rang out on Saturday from 15,000 people who attended a rally at Tirana university in support of the new Democratic Party, which intends to fight elections planned for February 10.

The rally was shown on television and reported in the official press after they had virtually ignored the new party since it was founded 11 days ago. Before the rally, one of the

Democratic Party's leaders, Gramoz Pashko, said it had the signatures of 40,000 supporters and that it would soon launch a formal membership drive and create branches across Albania. which has a population of only about three million.

"I think we'll get many support-

ers," he said. "I'm sure people will vote for us. But it depends on how we develop our campaign ... and on whether dark extremist forces allow the country to have a

peaceful election campaign." Mr Nano has been adviser to government leaders on ways to reform the country's stalinist economy. He replaced Niko Gjyzari, who was moved to the new post of general director of the

Pashko: warning given of "dark, extremist forces"

state bank, while Oemal Disha was named finance minister in place of Mr Nako.

Also removed in Saturday's reshuffle were the hardline security chief, Simon Stefani, and the transport minister, Hajredin Celiku. Mr Stefani was replaced as security chief by Ali Kaza and Mr Celiku's transport post was taken by Sakvador Franja.

Meanwhile, leading Albanian intellectuals have set up the country's first independent hu-

man rights group. "Our activity will be to press for the release of all political prisoners in Albania and to monitor legal procedures," said Arben Puto, chairman of the Forum for the Defence of Human Rights.

Mr Puto said he did not know how many political prisoners there were in Albania. "There are rumours that there were several thousand. Some have been released in recent years but now they must all be set free. It is nonsense to accept pluralism but still to have political prisoners," he said in an interview yesterday.

Mr Puto, aged 66, a professor of international law and diplomacy and co-author of an authoritative history of Albania, said the group needed foreign advice and assistance to carry out its work.

Defiant Slovenes vote to secede

From RICHARD BASSETT IN LIUBLIANA

IN DEFIANCE of federal warnings and thinly veiled threats from the Yugoslav army, Slovenia yesterday voted in a plebiscite for independence. If, as is predicted here, support for secession is overwhelming, the Slovene government believes it will be able to leave Yugoslavia's embattled federation after six months.

The vote came as Yugoslavia's other prosperous northern republic, Croatia, adopted a new constitution which prepares the ground for its own secession. The new Croatian constitution allows for a referendum on secession to be held within 30 days of the Croat parliament approving of such a move with a two-thirds majority.

Both Slovenia and Croatia have a history of long association with the Austro-Hungarian empire and central European values. They are increasingly dismissive of Yugoslavia's southern republic of Serbia, which after centuries of Ottoman rule remains undeniably Balkan. These differences in culture have become exacerbated on the political front, after the landslide victory of the communist leader, Slobodan Milosevic, in the first round of the Serbian elections

earlier this year. The second round, which contests 154 seats, is expected to result in another communist victory, which Western diplomats increasingly view as the consequence of ballot-rigging. Unlike the democratically elected leaders of Slovenia and Croatia, Mr Milosevic favours greater

centralisation. He is unwilling to negotiate or even hold talks with either Lagred or Ljubljava. His arrogance has forced the Slovenes into believing that they can no longer coexist

with the Serbs. Federal institutions such as the national health service, national organisation of chemists and the banking system are crumbling, Room for compromise is becoming increasingly limited. A senior Western diplomat noted at the weekend: "I was optimistic that Yugoslavia might just muddle along, but after the events of the last two weeks I no longer think that is possible."

Yugoslavia's picture of chaos leaves the almost inescapable impression that only a military takeover can resolve its problems. Not surprisingly, fear of the Yugoslav army, the majority of whose officers are Serbs, runs particularly high in Croatia where territorial units have been put on special alert throughout the repubhic. Details emerged at the weekend of a contingency programme. involving all police and territorial units in Croatia, should the slightest sign of military activity be registered.

In Slovenia, where a small military unit occupied the defence headquarters earlier this year. there is also unease. Janez Jansa, a pacifist jailed by the army two years ago, who is now Slovenia's rather implausible minister of defence, said: "If the army tries anything we will fight to defend ourselves." He has organised his territorial militia to be ready to move at a moment's notice.

Walesa makes peace gesture

Warsaw - In a stunning diplomatic gesture, President Walesa yesterday invited as his first guest to Belweder Palace his former jailer and the man who had just

> (Anne Olson writes). Afterwards, the new president, his family and his aides returned to Gdansk, from where he expects to conduct many of the affairs of

vacated it, Wojciech Jaruzelski

General Jaruzelski was pointedly absent on Saturday from Mr Walesa's inauguration as Poland's first popularly elected president. The former Solidarity leader had announced that he would accept the symbols of presidential office not from his predecessor, but from Ryszard Kaczorowski, president of the Polish government-in-exile.

This group of ageing Poles, who never gave up their dream of independence in spite of the postwar decision of the allied powers to put Poland in the Soviet orbit, has been based in London since 1939, when it was forced to flee Poland because of the nazi

invasion. With the democratic election of ? a new president, it lost its reason " for existence. Mr Kaczorowski handed over to Mr Walesa the presidential insignia, including a banner, three chancellery seals, and the original handwritten text of the 1935 Polish constitution.

But Mr Walesa yesterday met General Jaruzelski, who had recognized several months ago that he was an anachronism and agreed to step down one year into his sixyear term. The general "shared his experience as president with Lech Walesa and wished him success in .. his mission", the Polish news agency PAP said.

Threat by ETA

Bilbao — The Basque separatist group ETA said yesterday that it was responsible for 12 armed attacks, including a car bombing on December 8 in the northeastern town of Sabadell that killed six policemen. In a statement published in the Basque paper Egin, ETA said it would step up attacks on businesses and engineers working on the building of the Navarre to San Sebastian motorway project "who are direct operational targets". (Reuter)

Railway explosion

Moscow -- At least seven people died and 50 were injured at the weekend when a gas tanker exploded at a small railway station in central Russia, causing two passenger trains to collide. Tass said 16 carriages in the two trains burned out after the accident at Yelnikovo, near Byelgorod. The locomotive of the first express was blown on to another track when the gas tanker blew up in the sidings. (Reuter)



Marchais back

Paris - France's declining Communist party, battling against political oblivion, has re-elected the hardliner Georges Marchais as its secretary-general. All but one of the 140 members of the central committee backed the re-election of Marchais, aged 70, who has largely ignored pleas for rapid reforms from the party's rankand-file members. (Reuter)

Pollution taxes

Bonn - Chancellor Kohl's Christian Democratic Union and Christian Social Union parties are contemplating taxes on activities causing pollution to finance an environment cleanup in former : East Germany, a government. working group said yesterday. The : Free Democrats, the other part of the ruling coalition, reject such a "f

US warms to Major's cool, thoughtful style

By ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

T nusually for such a renowned workaholic, John Major was relaxed enough about his visit to the United States to spend much of the flight there socialising with journalists rather than doing any last-minute swotting up.

The Gulf and Eduard Shevarduadze's resignation denied the new prime minister front-page coverage in America, and his natural caution ensured the frustration of American television interviewers used to Margaret Thatcher's more colourful ad

For the moment, understandably, Mr Major restricts himself to his brief. But the objectives of his pre-Christmas flying visit were achieved: he showed himself for the first time to the 25 million viewers of the television breakfast shows, he struck up an easy, informal relationship with President Bush (and his dogs), and he impressed the senior American politicians and officials who met him. The verdict filtering back was that they found him straight, thoughtful and easy to get on with. Americans like

you to like them and their country. Mr Major, pointing out with some irritation that be has been travelling beyond the white cliffs of Dover for years, clearly does. His unscripted remarks at a lunch with senators and congressmen won him an impromptu standing ovation after he had dwelt on his father's life in America.

Unlike Mrs Thatcher, Mr Major may not need periodic exposure to the American way of life to recharge his ideological batteries, but there will clearly be no need to dig up the roots of the special relationship to see if it still exists. The ease of communication and community of interest, he emphasises, is still there - and his predecessor never got to stay the night at Camp David for sing-along carols as he

At their joint press conference before Mr Major's return home. Mr Bush was prepared to let the prime minister make the running on questions about the Gulf, coming in as chorus to acknowledge "that says it all". Mr Bush would have feared the revival of the "wimp" label if he had done that with Mrs Thatcher. Mr Major

wasn't quite so quick at the state department with James Baker, the Secretary of State. After their talks, Mr Baker swept him to a car past the waiting battery of cameras and reporters, then came back and gave a press conference, apologising that it was for visiting prime ministers to choose whether they stopped and Mr Major had been too busy. Mr Major had not been too busy. He had simply not realised the pack was waiting for him. He will learn.

T Te pleased America by making reassuring noises about the future - of Nato and Britain's determination to fend off the development of any independent European defence structure which would diminish the American role. And, if the American preoccupation

with the Gulf denied him the front pages, it did help to give him a purchase on American political and public attention. Britain's steadfast support on the Gulf has been appreciated by the administration, troubled by far less resolute public opinion than in the United Kingdom.

And, whereas a year ago Mrs Thatcher's

nose was put out of joint by the greater American attention given to Heimut Kohl, the German chancellor, and President Mitterrand of France, White House officials were content for Mr Major to come and growi at President Saddam Hussein alongside them. With a little mild table-banging, Mr

Major appeared to have impressed on those he met that more effort and flexibility on their part as well as that of the European Community was required if the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade talks were to be rescued. America, he told them, had not been "at its negotisting best" at the trade talks.

Only three weeks into his term as prime minister, the visit was more of a test than it looked. Mr Major came through it well. His public performances, if still a little colourless, are crisp. He never hesitates for

In the end, his visit was really about getting to know Mr Bush and the White House inner circle. Mr Major has achieved that objective in a typically quiet and thorough way.

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Memories of relentless US bombing still haunt Laos

A GONG fashioned from a bomb-casing calls children to their straw-and-bamboo school near Tchapone, at the hub of the former Ho Chi Minh trail in the western foothills of the Annamite

In a hollow, just five yards bomes are built on the edge of noted the figure down in a laughing youngsters, lies an ready-made fish ponds where for compensation; I did not know how to say it." Vietnamese Army, a reminder of the abortive 1971 operation to cut the skein of tracks that carried North Vietnamese troops and war material to South Vietnam. Nearby, halfburied, is a 155 mm howitzer, a live shell frozen in its breech. The children tear away vegetation to point it out.

Despite the physical flotsam of war, the mental scars of the people who live perched on the edge of bomb craters here are healing, though some say they still do not know who was bombing them or why. Others have helped small groups of American soldiers to look for bodies in crashed aircraft.

Some say the Americans, who fought a nine-year secret war in Laos, promised to build them a hospital, but have so far failed to do so, though impoverished local authorities have cleared the ground for it. Communist officials say that because of this allegedly broken promise these people, members of minority tribes, will not reveal the whereabouts of the bodies of other Americans missing in action.

planes come down and buried them. Villagers said they did the dead," said a local admin- not know who was in the now inclined to say."

the main rutted tracks of the trail Ho Chi Minh trail from Ban Dong to the village of Ban Saloy reveals what the highland minority people here village by the bombing, "We endured during years of American carpet-bombing. In some places there are so many

bomb craters they overlap. In the evening barebreasted Mangkong tribal women smoking pipes pound grain outside their simple homes, which are often con- look for their dead. I told them structed on stilts made from how many of our people had American bomb casings. The died in the village and they

Lethal debris litters the countryside where villagers bore the brunt of American carpet-bombing nearly 20 years ago. James Pringle reports

from the tiny building full of bomb craters which provide book. No, I did not dare ask

At Ban Chen, Tmin (he has no other name), the village chief, said people including himself did not know who was



bombing them for years. "We were not informed who it was but they wanted to kill us," he

He added that military lorries used to pass on the track nearby and he vaguely sensed "These people saw the the bombs were aimed at Army which moved more A drive south along one of than 700,000 troops down the

> At nearby Ban Saloy, Nhim Bounlao, the chief, said 17 people were killed in the took shelter in caves in the mountains and cultivated our fields by night. When the planes came, you had to move quickly to cover or you died." He knows who was responsible. "It was the Americans and they have been back to

People still have bad dreams about the bombing. One man whose father was killed went mad and is still cared for by his brother, villagers said.

There are two unexploded 250lb bombs half-buried in the earth in the centre of the village. More bombs were dropped on Laos - about 1.6 million tonnes - than the total America dropped on Germany during the second world

backed operation to try to cut in his district had been the Ho Chi Minh trail was bombed. Highway 9 has been launched in February 1971. tarred now with aid from the Called Lam Son 719, after an Soviet Union, Vietnam and ancient Vietnamese victory the former communist states over the Chinese, it ended in of Eastern Europe. Prisoners disaster when bad weather in Laos re-education camps, support of a ground-led tank vided much of the labour. assault along Route 9, a former French tactical road. As a correspondent in Viet-

helicopters bring back dead South Vietnamese troops to Khe Sanh. The helicopters seemed to be trailing objects attached to the skids. As they got nearer, the objects turned out to be terrified soldiers who had fled the battle zone by istrator. "They know where lorries - although it was, of clinging to the underside of more graves are but are not course, the North Vietnamese the choppers. Some could not retain their grasp and fell hundreds of feet to their death in the forest below.

nam at the time. I watched

As the dead were laid out in money-spinners here.

rows, American military advisers turned to correspondents and said: "They are doing a great job, our boys. We are proud of them." More than 5,000 South Vietnamese troops out of 17,000 in the operation were killed or wounded. The Americans lost 176 dead and 42 missing. In the 15 years since the war ended, 30 people have been killed in this district by unexploded ordnance. Four have died this year.

Among press colleagues who died were the British photographer Larry Burroughs of Life magazine and the American cameraman Henry Huet of Associated Press. Their helicopter was shot down over the Ho Chi Minh trail just about here.

Khamhoung Sipasauth, who works with minority peoples along the trail south of The biggest American- here, said 91 out of 92 villages Tchepone, a district capital,

has a bright new market, and a population of 5,000 mainly poor people. "This was a strategic point during the said Lahoun Maphangvong, a local official "Everything was destroyed, Now we have a school and a generator. Of course, it is nothing if you compare it with the developed countries." On the road; one sees

villagers carrying bomb and shell-casings to sell as scrap in Thailand. The remnants of war are one of the chief

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Ordeal by fire: members of a volunteer figures near Gosford to the north of the fire brigade fighting to control a bush fire, Australia's worst in 20 years, in the fire fronts several miles long took hold all Sydney suburb of Allambie Heights yesterday. Areas of New South Wales were engulfed by the flames, which destroyed several homes in northern Sydney (Robert Cockburn writes from Melbourne). Three bush walkers were cost of a severe freak storm which swept badly burned when they were cut off by the area on Saturday night. Hailstones

city. Fire services were overwhelmed as the way up the central coast and areas inland. Livestock and property were reported to have been destroyed. Melbourne and parts of southern Victoria, meanwhile, were yesterday counting the

the size of golf balls damaged property. Storm-force winds ripped off roofs and littered city and suburban streets with plate glass and fallen trees. Late last night coastal communities in the far north of Queensland were preparing for the full force of tropical cyclone Joy as it moved in from the Pacific Ocean, confronting thousands of people with a bleak and dangerous Christmas.

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Cambodians agree to UN peace plan

From JOHN PHILLIPS IN PARIS

CAMBODIAN leaders reach- "gives birth to hope". But ed agreement in principle some key differences not reyesterday on a United Nations solved over the weekend were peace plan to end the war set aside and will be examined between the Vietnamese-bac- at a meeting of a co-ordinating ked Phnom Penh government committee of the Paris conand rebel fighters, though ference on Cambodia which differences remain to be ham- will take place some time in mered out on disarming the the first quarter of next year. opposition guerrillas.

The tentative accord was reached in the early hours what would be a "difficult" after the ailing Cambodian follow-up meeting were over prime minister, Hun Sen, late on Saturday rejoined the conference of the Cambodian Supreme Council supported by two members of his staff.

Hun Sen, who is 39, spent most of the conference under observation at a Paris hospital after collapsing on Friday government for a specific afternoon in the early stages of mention in a final peace treaty the discussions with what was of Khmer Rouge respondescribed as a bad case of sibility for the killing of at nervous fatigue.

supreme council accepted "most of the fundamental points" of the peace plan eign minister, Roland Dumas, who co-chaired the meeting with his Indonesian opposite number, Ali Atatas.

said they were satisfied with atives. The full conference last the agreement and that it met in August 1989 but represented "progress" and reached no decision then.

a demand by Hun Sen's least one million people dur-

India, Canada as well as UN The two foreign ministers and non-aligned represent-

problems to be resolved at

M Dumas said the main

how to demobilise and disarm guerrillas from the three rebei factions, the Khmer Rouge, the nationalists led by Son Sann, and fighters inspired by Prince Norodom Sihanouk. Also to be hammered out is

The 12 members of the ing the Pol Pot regime from 1975 to 1979. If all goes well, the committee meeting early next year which envisages a ceasefire will be a prelude to the signing followed by elections under of a peace treaty at a full supervision by a United Na- session of the International tions transitional authority, Conference on Cambodia, according to the French for- grouping the five permanent United Nations security council members, the six Asean countries, Australia, Japan,

Mandela talks anger

Johannesburg - President de Klerk and African National Congress leaders, including Nelson Mandela, are believed to have privately discussed plans for a conference of all political parties in South Africa early next year to establish the ground rules for constitutional negotiations (Ray Kennedy writes). News of the meeting on Monday evening angered congress members, as it took place within 24 hours of the ANC resolving at a conference that negotiations should not be secret.

Habré sought for Surinam alert 'torture' trial

the extradition of the former president, Hissene Habre, who sought asylum in Senegal after fleeing four weeks ago to

escape rebels. would set up a court to try Mr Habre, accused by human rights groups of ordering hundreds of political prisoners to be tortured and killed during his nine-year rule. (Reuter)

Whales saved

Wellington - Activists from the environmental group Greenpeace have used inflatable rafts to stop a Japanese ship harpooning minke whales in the Southern Ocean, a spokeswoman for Greenpeace said (Rester)

Amsterdam — Surinam's army has been put on standby Ndjamena - Chad is seeking following the resignation of army chief, Lieutenant-Colonel Desi Bonterse, according to the Dutch news agency ANP. Colonel Bouterse said he was resigning because he The new government said it had lost respect for President Ramsewak Shankar, who would not let meet journalists in Amsterdam. (Reuter)

Rwanda battle

Nairobi - Rwandan troops have killed at least 200 rebels. including a witch doctor, in the latest battle in the northern region of Muvumba, staterun Radio Rwanda said. It said some of the rebels had been consulting the witch doctor "so he could give them magic power to fight government troops". (Reuter)

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year or two ago, head down and in the very depth of winter, I was picking my way through the building site surrounding The Times, when I encountered Bernard Levin, Passing the time of day, he remarked affably: "You must be the only man in London who wears a hat." Had my wits been less chilled, I might have indulged in some such repartee as: "You must be the only one who wears a green cloak; where do you get it, and why?" As

it was, I muttered something about the cold, brooded for a moment on the curious implications of his remark and forgot it until, the other day, it arose from my subconscious after I had bought a new hat. The old one was dilapidated.

and, since grim weather threatened, I reconciled myself to paying for a new one. The decision was not taken lightly. A tolerable hat is expensive and at the mercy of the non-hat-wearers who knock it to the ground while grabbing their coats. It is also an encumbrance at the theatre, where the choice is to put it unhygienically under the seat or to join a long queue at the cloakroom. Nor does it assist dignity in a high wind, when the choice is to walk idiotically clutching hat to head or risk having to chase it and look nonchalant when it lands in the mud.

Yet for centuries (probably since the cave) men have worn more or less practical bats as a defence against heat and cold, nowadays removing them when indoors as a matter of commonsense, as well as courtesy. (The irrational female hat, which offers no protection when worn outside and is often worn indoors more to set off than to hide a woman's crowning glory, is outside the scope of this philosophical disquisition.) So what persuaded men to abandon their head coverings? Why has the sex which is more prone to lose its hair become so captive to the no-hat fashion as to let snow, hail and rain beat on its pate, where the body's heat loss is greatest?

The reason, I suspect, is the same as that which has prompted politicians to discard their overcoats: obedience to a cult of youthful hardiness and vigour proved by ability to withstand all weathers without protection. Only the Younger Fogies seem unashamed to wear the occasional hat. What gives them the moral courage to do so is that, like the rest of their attire, the hat betokens not so much practical need as their youthful rebellion against sartorial

modishness. The same is true of their overcoats and waistcoats — which brings me back to the politicians. Have you sometimes wondered at the habit of middle-aged ministers. men (say) in their mid-forties and fifties, who bound spring-heeled along Downing Street to a cabinet meeting or emerge from their

Ronald Butt without an overcoat, with singlebreasted jacket flying open and thin shirt assailed by the wind? (Nigel Lawson stuck to the waistcoats of his youth, but the appear-

Wrap up, Mr Minister

ance was idiosyncratic.) When did a domestic television camera catch our bold and venturesome politicians coddled in a conventional overcost (although I gather that at the Rome summit Douglas Hurd wore his green coat, which was described to me as making him look like an Austrian inkeeper)? Groomed for the cameras, they naturally dress (as they suppose) youthfully, to show their indifference to the elements. It could be argued that the explanation is that over-heated offices and cars allow them to store enough body heat to survive ill-clad out-ofdoors. There may be something in that, or in the idea that President

But I suspect that the decisive fashion-maker is the camera which markets the public image of hardiness as the symbol of success. A sociological thesis is needed on the relationship between the rise of televised public life and the decline of the overcost.

Kennedy began it all at his

The cameras have also produced that strange, half-running gait that politicians now affect as, clutching their papers, they launch themselves out of their departments and into Number 10 as though there was not a moment to lose. Their speed is public witness to the tightness of their schedules, giving us to understand that they must rush from one meeting to the next without a moment to call their own. How different from the keisurely, dignified stroll of a Harold Macmillan or a Rab Butler. Even Lord Wilson's movements had a certain calm deliberation. Can you imagine Churchill on the trot to create an impression? Televised democracy. however, requires from politicians a demeanour which impresses the voters with their important busyness. Yet we might be more impressed by signs that they have time to reflect on policy and that recreation is not restricted to weekend photo-opportunities in sweaters and gumboots.

Mrs Thatcher, a workaholic, was particularly given to moving at a curious half-run, as if from one job to the next, which doubtless helped to set the fashion. She never much approved of holidays for herself or others. "How", she once asked a journalist who was going on one, "can you keep in touch?

Well, keeping in frantic touch with everything without time to think does not guarantee wisdom. Mr Major, at least so far, seems more relaxed, and the habit of politics at the double could change. Perhaps like Chancellor Kohl or President Mitterrand, he will also appear in public in a greatcoat or even, if the weather is harsh enough, like President ministries on a cold winter's day, Gorbachev, wearing a hat.

...and moreover

MATTHEW PARRIS

given me time to review the shoal of letters that over the year a newspaper columnist, at least one working for The Times, receives from his readers.

Before describing them can I explain to you - yes, you, the kind reader who wrote to me not so long ago - that you are the exception. It is not your letter to which I now refer. It is all of the others.

Why are my correspondents mostly mad? What is it about my own writing that inspires in the nutter, the obsessive and the paranoid schizophrenic, a sense of kindred spirit?

"The Times room at the Commons in which I work has a corner lined with pigeon-holes for our letters. Initially the Parris pigeon hole was located about six feet up the wall. Being only 5ft 8 in, I could reach but not inspect my box, which meant that on entering the office every day, I would have to execute a vigorous pogo jump, on the spot, to check for letters. Many thought this to be a formal salutation to my colleagues owed perhaps to my childhood education in Swazi-

land. I was too proud to explain. Thoughtful colleagues guessed the problem and my slot was tactfully lowered to eye level. Now I can size up my intray at a glance and compare it with others.

The comparison is invidious. Robin Oakley's cubbyhole is neatly stacked with impeccably typed envelopes, letters from MPs marked "personal and in confidence", and very grand invitations in copperplate script; for Sheila Gunn, whose duties take her frequently to the Other Place, there will be a chatty postcard or two from a duke or duchess, holidaying in Barbados.

But my own little space? Many of the envelopes are addressed in red ballpoint, many in green ink, and the rest in a mixture of both. Often the envelopes themselves are recycled gas bills, stapled or sticky-taped shut.

Upon opening these missives, a handful of bizarre photographs clipped from newspapers, plus evidence of severe

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personality disorder, leaps from

Typically, the paper is (or was) a reply from the Queen's private secretary. Dear Mr Jones, I have been asked to reply on Her Majesty's behalf to your letter about radioactive emissions from your television

set ... and so on. Using this as his basis, Jones has written to me, in green, in the margin, and upside down along the top, complaining about the Palace's attitude and contrasting this with the symnathy which he feels shines

through every line I write. Earlier this year, I wrote what was intended as a tongue-incheek essay on the inadequacy of the panda, as a serious species. Within days I was inundated with outpourings of hate against dozens of other furry mammals. I had no idea. for instance, that the koala bear

could inspire such loathing. Not long afterwards I described the problem I had had with the quality of my water supply, caused by the many months' presence in my loft tank of a decaying bat.

Dear Reader, If I were to tell you what other readers found in their loft tanks, you would be on Perrier for the rest of your life. Frankly, some of these stories betrayed imaginations of a highly disturbing nature.

Can I, as the year draws to a close, thank the man who, with the postcard he so kindly sent me, has just ended any hopes, I may have had of retaining the respect of the sorting office staff at headquarters in Wapping.

And - to the group hoping for my help in the promotion of a sexual/political spiritual renaissance in Nigeria - please do explain that I just don't have the

Enough. Not all are un-

balanced or unkind. Two are on

my conscience still, and prompt a serious postcript to this essay. Early on, I received a tremendously encouraging letter from a lady, then lost it. I feel mortified that she will not have rectived a "thank you" - so this is it. Secondly, to Richard, about to sit his accountancy exams earlier this year, you gave me no way of replying, and I

hope you will.

Bernard Levin delves into his Dickens and wonders how Fred would have fared had he taken his skinflint uncle's advice and gone into Parliament

A whole bench of Scrooges

which, on Christmas Eve, Scrooge is confronted by his nephew Fred, who has called on the old miser to invite him to Christmas dinner. When Scrooge has finished saying "Bah! Humbug!", he says to Fred: "Keep Christmas in your own way, and let me keep it in mine."

"Keep it!" says Fred, "but you don't keep it!" "Let me leave it alone, then," says Scrooge, "Much good may it do you! Much good it has ever done you!"

And then comes the famous apostrophe to Christmas; in case there is any reader who does not have a copy in the house, I shall quote it in full.

"There are many things from which I might have derived good, by which I have not the nephew, "Christmas among always thought of Christmas time, when it has come round anart from the veneration due to its secred name and origin, if anything belonging to it can be apart from that - as a good time; a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time; the only time know of, in the long calendar of the year, when men and women seem by one consent to open their shut-up hearts freely, and to think of people below them as if they really were fellow-passengers to the grave, and not another race of creatures bound on other journeys. And therefore, uncle, though it has never put a scrap of gold or aliver in my pocket, I believe that it has done me good, and will do me good; and I say, God bless it!"

To which Scrooge retorts with a sneer: "You're quite a powerful speaker, sir, I wonder you don't go into Parliament."

Well, now, has it ever occurred to you to wonder what might have happened if Fred had gone into Parliament? To start with, he would have had to acquire a surname, because Dickens omitted to provide him with one; let us give him a fitting moniker -Warmington, for instance, or Beamish, or perhaps Wellbeloved. (Why not? There is an MP called Goodhart right now, and what is a missing e among friends?)

Very well, we know whom to vote for: Fred. But what party would Fred join? The first thought is that it could not possibly be the Tories: Dickens would have considered Scrooge a typical one, and he created Fred (A Christmas Carol was published in 1843) not all that long after the years of Tory repression and the Corn Laws. Besides, the Tolpuddle Martyrs were transported only a few years before Scrooge's sarcastic suggestion, and Fred would still have been seething at the injustice (hardly noticing, in his fury, that the victims had been pardoned and returned to England).

The Whigs, on whom the Liberal mantle has descended? Surely not. Russell and Palmerston and the rest were more sensible than the black-hearted Tories, but there was nothing really radical in their programme, once the Reform Bill was through. Certainly, Fred would have signed the Chartists' petition, probably several times under various aliases, though not going so far as the - alas, unknown - sport who signed it "Queen Victoria", or the more mysterious one who wrote

only "No cheese". What about Disraeli? Fred might well have read Sybil, with its savage portrait of the Two Nations, and wondered whether he had found a leader there, but I doubt it would have lasted. No: Fred, MP, would have been a Radical first, last and in between. No more speculation; I can reveal

that he did indeed join a group of truly radical Members. Having taken his seat (a modest one on the back benches), Fred MP wasted no time in starting his radical career. His first task was to bone up on the procedure for introducing private members' bills; having mastered the intricacies, he got down to work. His first attempt was with a measure called The Relief of the Poor in Excessively Cold Weather (Distribution of Hot Chocolate) Bill. The Tories showed themselves hostile to the measure from the start; how right was Fred to pass them by with a shudder! As he said in his speech on the Second Reading:

Honourable Members opposite may well recall their youth, and if they do, they will surely remember that, as they lolled in their cradles, even in the warmth appear as by magic, bearing a jug of the refreshing liquid, whereupon the Honourable Member-Will they now deprive those who have no cradles, no fires, no houses, no nursemaids and indeed in some cases no jugs, of a few spoonfuls of relief from the freezing weather?

Unfortunately, the Minister of the Environment, winding up the debate, pointed out that the disposal of so much foil from the chocolate packets could be a serious hazard; people might slip on the discarded remains, and in any case the government had set its face against any more public expenditure. Moreover, his Rt Hon Friend the Minister of Health had consulted renowned experts in these matters, and was fully persuaded that - even if economic conditions permitted - it would be the height of folly to serve the children of the poor a liquid which, from the rarity of its inclusion in their regular diet, might well have deleterious effects on their stomachs. (Tory Members: "Hear, hear!")

Tothing daunted, Fred shortly afterwards introduced the Snowball Fields (Free Entertainment) Bill. In his speech on the second reading he said:

My proposal would designate a number of open spaces which. whenever there is a substantial fall of snow, particularly at the Christmas season, will be temporarily reserved to those who wish to play snowballs. Of course. I have allowed for the possibility of accidents; snowball wardens will be engaged - and, I am sure all Hon Members will agree that the profession of snowball warden is one which could not conceivably strike terror into the hearts of those disposed to be alarmed by a policeman - to ensure that no stones are inserted in the snowballs, and that good order in sures, as well as a great deal of innocent pleasure.

Unfortunately, the Minister of the Environment, winding up the debate, explained that he had carefully examined the maps of the areas which were to be designated under the Hon Member's measure, and found that all of them belonged to Lord Howard de Walden, who had regretfully explained that he was unable to accede to such a request under the bill. In any case the government



had set its face against any more public expenditure. Moreover, though the snow wardens might ensure that there are no stones in the snowballs, his Rt Hon Friend the Minister of Housing had pointed out the danger of a misthrown snowball breaking nearby windows, thus seriously depreciating the value of the housing stock. (Tory Members: "Hear, hear!")

By now, Fred had realised that his mission to make the world a better place, courtesy of Christmas, would be harder than he had thought. He decided that his next measure would attract support from all parts of the House, and to this end introduced The Smile for the Festive Season (Cordiality to Strangers) Bill. By the terms of the legislation, all servants of the public, whether employed by the state or not - postmen, policemen, doctors, members of the Armed Forces, cabriolet-drivers, delivery boys and others whose calling obliged them to go about the streets a good deal - would be paid a modest bonus for every smile they directed at passers-by who were strangers to them. In the

second reading debate. Fred observed that

...a smile was always welcome, that the more smiles there were the happier people would be and that the "official" smilers could not complain that smiling was an exhausting or unhealthy

practice. Unfortunately, the Minister of the Environment, winding up the debate, said that though he certainly did not question the Hon Member's sincerity, he was obliged to say that he did question his sagacity. In the first place, there was a very serious danger, particularly among those who had not heard of the new measure, that the smiles with which they were being so frequently greeted might be quite catastrophically misunderstood. The minister said that, for reasons of propriety, he would not go into details, but every Hon Member would surely understand what he was saying: Heaven forbid that any Act of Parliament, however innocently introduced, should lead to a breakdown of morality. In any case, he added, the government had set its face against any further

public expenditure, and he had learned from his Rt Hon Friend the Minister of Health that, according to the best medical opinion, repeated smiling had on many occasions led to lockjaw. (Tory MPs: "Hear, hear!")

now, Fred was becoming desperate, and many of his colleagues in the House, though ysmpathetic to his cause, urged him to give up. He rejected the advice with scorn, and - as if to proclaim that he was going to continue with his endeavours bravely introduced The Christmas Carols and Christmas Cards (Traditional Symbols) Bill. Speaking on the second reading, Fred said:

There can hardly be an Hon Member of this House who does not delight in the innocent custom whereby groups of young people go about the streets ritual of exchanging Christmas cards with their friends and relatives. My bill would, I hope, encourage these charming practices, but that is not my aim both seem to flourish without official help. What I propose is that the government should place advertisements in the press, commending the singers and those who exchange tokens in the form of cards - for surely they deserve commendation and to add to each such advertisement a few sentences which would urge readers to think of those less fortunate at Christmas-time.

nfortunately, the Minister for the Environment, winding up the debate, said that were a number of objections to such a scheme. In the first place, those in a hurry when they saw the advertisements might not get to the part towards the end in which the charitable recommendation would be placed, so nullifying any beneficial effect they might have had. Moreover, the government had set its face against any more public expenditure. In addition, his Rt Hon Friend, the Minister for the Arts, had assured him that the standard of the average band of carol-singers is lamentably low. and that the design of most Christmas cards leaves much to be desired. (Tory Members: "Hear,

Fred tried once more, with the White Christmas (Weather Forecasting) Bill. Speaking on the second reading, he said:

As Yultide approaches, many families anxiously scan the heavens for signs of snow, wondering whether there will be appropriate weather. (Hon Members: "Haha.") In many families, a spirited guessing game ensues until, on Christmas morning, the answer is vouchsafed. My bill would harness this friendly controversy for a charitable purpose. A public appeal, funded by the government, would be mounted. to urge families playing the game to wager, say, a half-penny on the outcome, with the losers paying their losses not to other members of the family, but to those organisations which, particularly at Christmas, solicit alms for the

Unfortunately, the Minister of the Environment, winding up the debate, said no countenance could be given to any extension of gambling, of which there was all too much already, and in any case the government had set its face against any more public expenditure. (Tory Members: "Here, here!")

Not long after that, Fred applied for the Chiltern Hundreds, a sadder and a wiser man, and spent his declining years trying to persuade Scrooge that his (Scrooge's) original attitude to Christmas was the right one. He died in an accident at home, when a Christmas tree fell on him.

By now Fred was becoming desperate. Scornfully rejecting the advice of colleagues that he give up, he bravely introduced the Christmas Carols and Christmas Cards (Traditional Symbols) Bill...

Dulwich to White House...

though the BBC is consigning Mrs Thatcher to Dulwich sitcom status in its new series, Dunrulin', the Americans could well cast her in a more dynamic role - to help President Bush win re-election in 1992. According to the Washington Post, the Republican party is considering inviting her to deliver the keynote speech at the party's national convention next sum-

Mrs Thatcher does owe a certain debt to the Republican party, which could be in serious trouble by 1992 if the current economic recession proves deep and operation Desert Shield goes awry. The Reagan administration, in what was seen as clear interference in British domestic politics, came to her help before the 1983 general election by making clear its view that Labour's unilateralism would undermine both Nato and the special relationship. It again helped out before the 1987 election when the White House humiliated a visiting Neil

Kinnock. But whereas Mrs Thatcher and President Reagan were ideological soulmates and adored each other, her relationship with the more pragmatic Bush were never as close. His administration set out to court Germany at Britain's expence and only latterly began to appreciate the value of Mrs Thatcher's loyalty when the Gulf crisis erupted. In the end there was genuine dismay within the admin-

istration at her departure. Were she to be the keynote speaker, she would share the platform with ex-presidents Reagan, Nixon and Ford, all of whom might have retirement tips to offer. And she would not be

short of a gag or two. Opinion polls have shown she could win the US presidency were she not constitutionally banned from standing because she was born elsewhere. She could perhaps ask for a constitutional amendment before 1996.

Well spotted

li over the world, Walt Disney's One Hundred and L One Dalmatians will delight young andiences this Christmas as it has every year since it was made in 1960. But the Diary can reveal that Dodie Smith, who died a month ago, wrote the book on which it was based only with the greatest reinctance.

When Jon Wynne-Tyson set up Centaur Press in Arundel in 1954 one of his first ideas was a book by Dodie Smith on dogs. He says: She was always suitoudded by dogs, and loved Dalmatians especially. I wrote to her urging her to write something - as many of her friends had done. She replied that she couldn't possibly do a book on dogs. I think she thought it was beneath her dignity, as she was then better known as a playwright."

But two years later Dodie Smith did write the book that was to make her a household name and, thanks to the film, a millionaire. Unfortunately for Wynne-Tyson, she placed it with another publisher. "My mother had a long letter from Dodie, who felt rather guilty," he says. "Had I published it, I would not be spending Christmas in England but at a winter retreat in the Caribbean."

Just the once...

s a child, Gwen Ffrangcon-Davies was taught to ignore L birthdays, and she did so resolutely when she went on the stage. "As an actress, you keep your



age a secret," she says, "An actress's age is her own affair." But not her next birthday - on January 25 - which will be her 100th. Miss Ffrangcon-Davies, who was the first Eve in Shaw's Back to Methuselah and was still on stage (in Uncle Vanya) at the age of 79. will break her lifelong rule by attending a dinner in London organised by friends. "I don't know who will be coming or where it will be," she says. Given her long and distinguished services to acting, one would think she deserves something more from the Queen in the new year than a congratulatory birthday telegram.

Tanner reborn

s cooks throughout the country put the finishing L touches to their Christmas puddings, many will lament the arrival of the minuscule 5p coin, a sorry substitute for the traditional lucky sixpence. For designers at the Post Office, though, the sixpence is far from a thing of the past.

Alongside the black cats, golden keys, falling stars, and wishing wells that decorate next February's. issue of lucky stamps, sits a sixpence - curiously stamped with the date 1991. The last sixpence in fact was minted in 1967. "Designers don't have to take reality too much into consideration," says the Post Office. Fortunately cooks don't use the same licence.

Mystery and Mrs

orget the upheavals in Rus-sia, our own change of leadership and the bleak economic outlook: the burning issue most exercising millions of British minds is where Jack Wooley and Peggy Archer will spend their honeymoon.

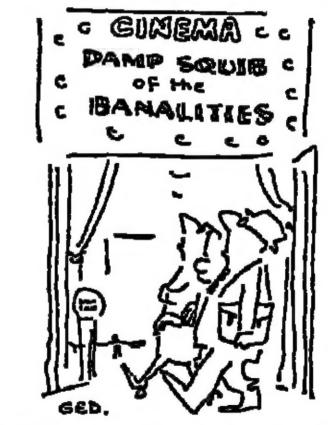
The leading lights of Ambridge are to marry on New Year's Day, but not even Peggy knows the honeymoon destination. Nor does the actor playing Jack, even though his character has already bought the tickets, or anyone else in the cast. Archers scriptwriters have surrounded this vital piece of information with a rustic D-notice that will remain in force until the loiks back home get a postcard from Heathrow.

Unreal McCoy

While New York critics savage the film of Tom Wolfe's The Bonfire of the Vanities as a travesty of the original. Wolfe himself has introduced a note of modesty into the debate. One of the objections to the film is the new ending - but Wolfe has revealed that he is not altogether happy about the way he rounded off the book proof that even masters of the literary universe can be assailed by doubt.

The book ends with a report from The New York Times, a year after the main events, announcing that Sherman McCoy, the leading character, is to be tried for manslaughter. His eventual fate is left undecided. In an interview for LWT's South Bank Show, to be screened in March, Wolfe says: "Looking back on it, it's not a particularly satisfactory ending. I

didn't know how to end the book, to tell you the truth." Wolfe hoped that Brian De Palma, director of the film, and his scriptwriters might do better. "If they can, I wish them luck." But Wolfe gave the interview before the New York premiere, and the critical burning at the stake. What does he say now of the typically Hollywood ending in which Mc-Coy walks free? He is remarkably



diplomatic. "This is Brian De Palma's movie," he says, "with his own version of the plot, his own dialogue, his signature on whatever he does."

One of the Majors' own decorations will be missing from the Chequers dining-room table this Christmas: an elaborate miniature gold castle which they gave earlier this year to an auction in aid of the Hillingdon hospital scanner. College lecturer Diana May, who paid £25 for it, says the castle arrived in a box with detailed instructions, presumably written by Mrs Major: "Mind the flag" and "Be careful to pull the castle out of the box horizontally". Bearing the instructions in mind, the Mays have given the castle pride of place on their dining room table - and a great talking point it will make.

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REASONS FOR BEING HOPEFUL

For nearly 2,000 years the birth of Christ has celebrated throughout the Christian world as above all a sign of hope. The prospects for the human race seemed grim at the time of the first Christmas. They have seemed grim ever since. From the sinfulness of humankind to the fate of the planet, apocalyptic fear was as much in vogue in first century Palestine as it has recently been in the West. The threats were perceived differently but the message was much the same - that time was running out.

Yet millions grasp at this brief annual moment to suspend conventional pessimism, to believe that goodness can be the rule rather than the exception. This Christmas, for once, the seasonal belief cannot be dismissed as mere escapism. This Christmas, humanity as manifest in its political organisation merits a toast more heartfelt than for many decades.

At the end of 1989, communism had begun its collapse across Eastern Europe, but few could predict how real that collapse would prove in 1990. Could it indeed survive a year? Was it really true that the necessity for armed confrontation against Soviet military expansionism — a state of mind for so long — might one day end?

Nothing, nothing for half a century, has been more remarkable than the speed and ease of the switch made by the nations of Eastern Europe from bondage to democracy. In many of them - Romania being an exception in this and other respects - not a drop of blood has been shed. Two years ago, the cost of securing a reunification of Germany under a liberal democracy would have been estimated in millions of lives. Two years ago, the route to the presidential palace for a Havel or a Walesa would have been thought no less bloody. This

year has seen all this accomplished in peace. The year ends with the final communist bastion buckling under internal siege, as Stalin's figure is removed from the main square of Tirana, capital of Albania. True, Stalinism can never be eradicated and will, for a long time, gaze down from the Kremlin shelf as Soviet imperialists find their agonising route to democratic salvation. Those who prefer their Christmases grim need look no further than Eduard Shevardnadze's exasperated resignation speech last week. Yet the underlying truth is that the political culture which sustained almost all the world's dictatorships, marxism, lost both credibility and legitimacy in 1990. For liberal democracy, it was a real annus mirabilis.

As if to prove that the virus of freedom knows no frontiers, the racial oligarchy that has ruled South Africa for four decades found

in 1990 that its days were most emphatically numbered - and found in F.W.de Klerk a leader capable of articulating that demise. As Nelson Mandela was set free, so the gates of the apartheid fortress burst open. There is bloodshed and still will be, but not the bloodshed of racial civil war. Africa has had an appalling decade, and now faces yet another bout of politically-induced famine. But even here there is hope - that the -isms exported to that continent from Europe in the first half of this century have run their course, that the wars in Angola, Mozambique, Liberia and even Ethiopia may soon end, and that the minous socialism of other African states can pass to a saner and more stable democracy.

The year will doubtless end with many thoughts turning to the Gulf. That so many countries should, at a time when peace shares were at such a premium, have had to arm themselves for war, is of course tragic. But hope lies even in that phrase, "so many countries". Transcending local and regional revolutions in the name of peace and democracy, 1990 was the year of reawakening for what could, until now, safely be ridiculed as the "world community", manifest in the United Nations. The idealism of its creation after the second world war lasted not many

months into the peace. The Gulf confrontation has revived the spirit in which the UN was conceived, a force for world order through which the civilised nations could join to counter aggression, notably aggression against small states. That many Arab and Third World nations have aligned themselves with this vision of a new world order is as significant as the unity

between the superpowers. What has emerged in the past six months is the possibility of a total realignment in the vast military might built up during the cold war, a realignment in the cause not of regional selfdefence but of world order. The world illserves itself by criticising the pain through which the United States is now passing as it debates its inevitably dominant role in this order.

American power, for all its inadequacies, its hesitations, its ineptitudes, remains unquestionably the best hope that civilised standards will triumph. A high price may yet be extracted. The Gulf may crupt and swiftly give the lie to too much Christmas optimism. But war has never been a painless route to a greater peace. The year fast closing has shown a glimpse of that peace, and marked out the route. There have been few more hopeful years than 1990.

SUNDAY COMMON SENSE

Where but in England could the manager of a toy shop proclaim that he had "overwhelming evidence" to demonstrate that he was running "a resort" for children and not a shop at all? Where else could a magistrate hope to hear that wallnaper was really a motor component because it was used to decorate the insides of caravans? Or that a bag of cement was an aviation accessory, since concrete slabs were necessary to block the wheels of aircaft? And all this just so shops can stay open on Sundays.

In some respects, such examples admirably represent the flexibility and open-endedness of England's system of community control, only messily codified in law. Certainly, existing laws are being openly flouted by large retail chains, chains which in other respects have an overwhelming stake in the commercial law being strictly upheld. This, in itself, is deplorable and could become a dangerous precedent. In Germany, in contrast, the restrictions on trading hours are far more draconian than in Britain. But there could be no question there of fumbling towards a new social consensus by the trial and error which has been practised in the English high streets.

There must be a limit to the flexibility of legal enforcement and this point appears now to have been reached. Most people still accept that blatantly illegal trading is a temporary and minor aberration, not some fundamental breakdown in respect for the law. But this suspension of disbelief in the law cannot continue. This the prime minister, the retail

trade and even the more moderate opponents of Sunday trading now recognise.

There is both a libertarian and economic case for allowing complete freedom to engage in any commercial activity as and when the market requires. Not many Britons would support it. There is an equal and opposite yearning for protection against commercialism, be it in planning controls, the natural environment or the preservation of historic buildings. Limiting Sunday trade may not have the cultural, moral or historic specificity of other accepted infringements, but if protection is to be given to one aspect of economic life, why not to certain periods in the week?

But "keep Sunday special" is too vague a slogan to justify the restriction on individual freedom demanded by the opponents of Sunday trading. The best way forward would be for the proponents of every point of view to have their argument out before a brisk inquiry, charged with reaching a consensus likely to be accepted to the public.

Such a consensus might embrace the right of shopworkers to refuse to work on Sundays and possibly for shops to stay closed until lunchtime. It would have to embrace the declared public wish for Sunday to be "special" in some sense, yet for it also to be more widely useful to those who cannot shop on weekdays. This is an issue for common sense. Now that the government has said it will act, how it does so will be a good test of its clear-headedness.

HONOUR AMONG FRIENDS

Born of medieval politics, patronage and greed, the British honours system has never quite lost that aura. Small wonder that while other nations have imitated many features of the British constitution, none has risked imitating the bonours system. Margaret Thatcher's resignation honours list, like that of Lord Wilson, was a hostage to controversy, and controversial it has proved. It was an odd mixture of financial and media backers and cronies, with hard-working assistants, the "honour" done to the former tainting that done to the latter. What was extraordinary was not the character of the list, but that a leader who made so much of her desire to do down the establishment and its traditions should have dipped so cynically into this well of establishment patronage.

In an ideal honours system, donors to party political funds rather than national charities, be they personal or corporate donors, should simply not qualify. In an ideal system, purely private friends of the prime minister should not qualify. In an ideal system, active journalists whose work makes them specially vulnerable to political blandishment should not qualify - or at least should decline as a matter of professional conscience. In an ideal system, the scale of award should relate to the scale of public service performed, not to wealth, social class or status. But there has

never been such an ideal system. The straight selling of honours has normally been associated with the rise of democratic parties and the need for cash to run them and newspapers to support them. But James I was selling baronetcies in the 17th century. Cronyism - not to mention sex - dominated honours awarded by the late Stuarts and Hanovarians, Lloyd George's notorious price Hanovarians, Lieyu George (1971) 782 5046.

list was regarded as offensive more for the blatancy of its cynicism than for the cynicism itself. Lord Wilson's "lavender list" - of people whose service was neither to country nor party but to Lord Wilson personally - was again accused less of cynicism than of blatancy. That all this should go on while there is something called a scrutiny committee of the great and good merely makes what is laughable even more ridiculous.

Mrs Thatcher's list stuck to the archaic absurdities: BEMs for the cleaners, knighthoods for the line managers, peerages for the cronies. Like her disintering of hereditary honours, the list blew a raspberry at her reputation for social radicalism. Worse, it permitted the scrutiny committee to settle some old scores of its own, apparently culling names to whom members of the committee took political exception.

That a group of elderly privy councillors should have tolerated a decade of rampant abuse of the honours system and then blocked Jeffrey Archer seems peculiarly unjust. Mr Archer may not be to every taste but the effort he devoted to his leader's cause surely outstripped that of Sir Jeffrey Sterling and Sir David Wolfson. As for his past behaviour justifying the committee in its blackball - is there no limit to the system's hypocrisy?

The only sadness in this regular British farce is that decent people of more than ordinary public spirit and deserving their country's special thanks must suffer the indignity of sharing honours with those who have not deserved them in the same sense. But then life was never fair. "It's a funny old world" was apparently Mrs Thatcher's parting message to | 1 Brick Court, Temple, EC4. her cabinet. So this is what she meant. December 20.

Shipyard skills to aid homeless From Professor Emeritus R. L.

Sir, In Hull near here there are still many prefabricated houses which were erected immediately after the last war. Although they were expected to last no more than 15 years they have outlived the many high-rise apartments which have had to be demolished all over the

The occupants of these houses have generally been pleased with their homes, more so than those in tower blocks. Certainly the families in bed-and-breakfast accommodation provided at great expense by local authorities would be delighted to move to such

bouses. The shipbuilding industry, especially in places such as Birkenhead, is facing the closure of yards, but the skills and techniques employed in shipbuilding could easily be turned over to the production of prefabricated houses. which could be provided more quickly and economically than conventional ones.

No doubt such a proposal would meet with the objection that land and money are in short supply. But in most cities there are pockets of unused land and if the government would permit the use of money gained from the sale of council houses, finance would be available. There would also be saving of unemployment benefits and redundancy payments.

A further obstacle is the conservatism of government and local authority planners and architects who have always been prejudiced against prefabricated houses. But even if one were to concede that presabrication is a second-best (a large concession), we should not allow the best to become the enemy of the good.

The mistakes on housing over the last few decades hardly qualify the experts to pronounce on what is best. The present situation demands emergency measures just as much as in the 1940s. Yours faithfully,

R. L. BRETT, 19 Mill Walk. Cottingham, North Humberside. December 20.

Keeping the faith From the Reverend Tony Higton

Sir, I was fascinated to read in The Times of December 19 that the General Synod had "distanced itself' from the views expressed in my petition to the Queen about the multi-faith worship at the annual Commonwealth Day observance. Yet, as a synod member, I know that the issue has not been debated and that many of my fellow members are deeply concerned about the danger that lies in attempts to amalgamate different systems of belief.

Another cause of concern is constitutional. The observance takes place in Westminster Abbey in the presence of, and under the authority of her Majesty. At the Coronation (in the same building, of course) she solemnly vowed to do her utmost to "maintain in the United Kingdom the Protestant, Reformed religion established by law."

Yet, in the view of tens of thousands of Christians, the Commonwealth observance marginalises Jesus Christ by encouraging leaders of other faiths to worship in their own way in a Christian church, ignoring the Son of God. This not only undermines the Coronation promise but also the Christian faith, which is founded on Jesus being the only

way to God. It is this truth which we celebrate at Christmas. Yours faithfully, TONY HIGTON,

The Rectory. Hawkwell, Hockley, Essex. December 19.

Fisheries policy From Mr P. A. Lees

Sir, The government encouraged vessel owners to improve their fleet, then put on crippling interest rates, then reduced quotas. In addition, there is an estimated £900 million worth of fish being taken unlawfully from the Irish Sea by Spain.

Somebody has made the decision that the UK, and more specifically England, is not a fishing nation.

There is only one answer now and that is to take up the EC decommissioning scheme, some 70 per cent paid by the EC, the balance by the UK. Yours faithfully.

P. A. LEES (Director), ABJ Fishing Ltd. Lytham Marine, Dock Road, Lytham, Lancashire. December 19.

Unwanted organs?

From Mr Stephen Suttle Sir, May I develop the theme of Mr Oliver's letter (December 20) by enquiring whether evangelical churches really need organs at all? Would not the use of an ensemble of electric keyboards, guitars, drums and microphones (such as appears with increasing frequency on BBC's Songs of Praise) be more suited to the banality of many modern hymns and psalm versions and of the music to which organists are expected to play

them? It would also represent revenge on behalf of the church band for its dispossession by the organ in the nineteenth century. Yours faithfully,

S. J. SUTTLE,

Enhancement funding for the arts

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From the Chairman of the Arts

has at last been rectified.

5.5 per cent.

Of the 45 organisations recommended for enhancement funding only 19 are based in London. Of those, many spend more than haif their working life on tour outside the capital - among them English National Ballet and the English Shakespeare Company. Of the enhancement fund budget of £7.5 million some 49 per cent is being

PETER PALUMBO, Chairman, Arts Council. 14 Great Peter Street, SW1.

From Lard Crickhowell

refuse enhancement funding for the Weish National Opera's English touring programme (report, Arts page, December 21) has put at grave risk the leading opera touring company in England and Wales. The Welsh Arts Council has done its bit, and it is incredible that the Arts Council of Great Britain should not understand its responsibility for touring in Eng-

to die. Mr Palumbo must tell us very quickly - for every hour is

Sir, Your biased and ill-informed leader on the application of Arts Council enhancement funding (December 19) suggests that I and my council were intimidated by the Royal Shakespeare Company's thoroughly justified campaign for an adequate level of public funding. This is wholly untrue. The company's historic underfunding

In the case of the South Bank Board (as the editor of The Times, a former member of that board, well knows) the budget submitted to us clearly indicated that for the coming year the South Bank was anticipating expenditure of just over £20 million, against a projected income from all sources, including subsidy, of just under £21 million. That is why the increase in the grant was limited to

There is no question of the Arts Council using the enhancement fund as a camouflage. The fund was introduced by the former minister for the arts, David Mellor. He clearly stipulated that it was intended to assist companies of the highest quality, and the criteria for the enhancement fund were subsequently approved by the new minister, Tim Renton.

spent in the regions.

Sir, The Arts Council's decision to

When Mr David Mellor negotiated his remarkable funding deal for the arts, he made it clear that he believed that the government had taken the necessary steps to safeguard the future of companies of the calibre of WNO, which is too great a treasure to be allowed

now critical — how he proposes to prevent this cultural catastrophe.

The WNO is not a profligate company, but there is a level of funding below which it is simply impossible to deliver touring opera of high quality.

Yours etc., CRICKHOWELL (Member of Council, Welsh National Opera), House of Lords. December 21.

From the General Director of English National Opera Sir, Your leader misleads: worse, it rants at signs of real vigour from an Arts Council attempting to respond to a proven case from its clients. For a decade we in the arts and you in the press have, rightly complained about an Arts Council dispensing equal misery for all and shying away from radical decisions of choice based on objective evaluation. Now it has responded and you accuse the council and its chairman of being

terrified". On the contrary, Mr Peter Palumbo has proved that he has the straightforward fearlessness of Parsifal and is obviously not intimidated by the thunderings and appeals for the Treasury knife emanating from the fortress you and your Klingsor occupy in

Wapping. Yours faithfully, PETER JONAS General Director English National Opera, London Coliseum St Martin's Lane, WC2, December 19.

From the Chairman of the Scottish Arts Council

Sir, It is certainly true that some companies supported by the Arts Council of Great Britain who believed that their careful management would be rewarded will be upset at the council's allocation of the new arts enhancement fund. Your remark that "thus are prudent arts managers punished and rakes allowed to progress" was perhaps rather cynical.

Let me assure you, however, that the principle of "nothing fails like success" will certainly not be applied to the Scots' allocation from the fund. Nor will my council make any hasty decisions about allocating funds which are expected to represent a large permanent increase in the revenue funding of a few companies. A Scots ca' canny approach seems appropriate.

Yours sincerely, ALAN PEACOCK, Chairman. The Scottish Arts Council 12 Manor Place, Edinburgh. December 19.

and thereby safety margins.

We must not alter the law

simply to accommodate incom-

petence. Until the current position

of being able to pass the driving

test in the morning and drive on a

motorway in the afternoon is

addressed, we cannot hope to

As a driving instructor, I would

like to see the introduction of a

motorway driving test, say, six

months after the "L" test. Many

new drivers find themselves on a

motorway without even the basic

knowledge of a dual carriageway.

Driving schools offer motorway

driving courses, but the percent-

facility is relatively low.

"L" test.

Yours faithfully,

5 White Lodge Close,

ROGER ISON,

Sutton, Surrey,

age of new drivers taking up this

Even without a motorway driv-

ing test consideration should at

least be given to making some "A"

road driving compulsory on the

improve motorway driving.

Road congestion From Mr Roger Ison

Sir. Inefficient use of motorway lanes is an overwhelming problem, particularly on the M25, but the solution to motorway congestion is not to increase the speed limit to 90mph, or indeed to amend the Road Traffic Acts to allow overtaking on either side (Mr Robinson, December 14).

Whilst modern cars are capable of higher speed because of improved design and safety, are modern drivers capable of controlling such a vehicle at 90mph? Although much has happened in the development of the motor car, little has changed in the driving test, which is still very basic.

Many drivers already drive at 10 to 20mph over the speed limit. The 90mph proposal would merely cause them to drive at 100 to 110mph. On the M25 traffic rarely reaches 70mph anyway. Furthermore, the plan to expand that road to five lanes will mean reducing the current lane widths

Tory reselections

From Mr Paul S. Gray Sir, I read with surprise your report (December 20) entitled "Young Conservatives try to unseat MPs". I am extremely concerned that Wessex area Young Conservatives have been misrepresented. We have not, and will not, encourage any moves to deselect any member of Parliament. We are an advisory committee and have no role or power in any constituency. I also reject any attempts to

brand the area as extremist. Many YCs have been inspired and

Vote on hunting

mately 3.4 per cent of the National Trust membership voted in favour of a ban on deer hunting. If 96.6 per cent did not vote in favour of a ban, with what authority does Miss Shoard claim that this vote was the clearly expressed will of the membership? What is much more sinister is, however, the stated threat that the trust could eventually be used as a means of undermining all those country practices, ranging from foxhunting to chemical farming, to which townspeople take exception; those whom Miss Shoard describes as the urban majority to whom the trust is ultimately responsible. Is that the purpose of the trust? We are told that Mr Rodney

Legg, chairman of the Open Spaces Society, has demanded a complete re-structuring of the trust, putting complete control in the hands of the members. Perhaps it would be impertinent to ask whether the members he has in mind are the gallant 3.4 per cent or the remaining 96.6 per cent.

December 16. motivated by the ideas Mrs Thatcher espoused and many of us wrote and spoke in support of her. Over 90 per cent of YCs, in a survey I carried out on behalf of our national organisation, supported John Major as her successor. YCs in Wessex represent a complete cross-section of the party. The vast majority occupy that centre ground which Mrs Thatcher and her cabinet, including Mr Major, occupy.

Yours sincerely. PAUL S. GRAY (Chairman), 36 St Ann Street. Salisbury, Wiltshire.

From Colonel J. L. Parkes

Sir, According to Marion Shoard (article, December 13) approxi-

Wessex Young Conservatives. There is plenty of scope for an urban crusade if townspeople really want to do some good. However, we bumpkins will have to put up with the urban crusaders coming here and setting about the really meaningful task of preserv-

ing their own image of the

Yours etc., JOHN PARKES, Lovehayue Farm. Southleigh, Colyton, Devon.

countryside.

From Commander D. L. Harding. RN (retd) Sir, I have returned my National

Trust membership card as a protest against the decision of the NT council (report, December 14) to reject the democratic vote at the recent annual general meeting to ban stag hunting on NT property. It would have been much more

appropriate for the council to have enforced the ban and then set up a working party to study the conservation and management of the deer freed from barbaric practices and to report for further discussion at the 1993 AGM.

Keeping in the Christmas spirit

From Mr Andrew Anderson Sir, Readers puzzled as to why Oliver Cromwell should have declared mince pies to be idobatrous objects (report, December 10) might be interested to read the entry under "Crib" in the New Catholic Encyclopeadia describing the pre-Reformation English castom of baking minee piet at Christmas in oblong manget shapes to cradle an image of the Christ child. The Puritans, when they outlawed Christmas, singled out "idolatrie in crust" for specia

The effect of the ben on the seventeenth century soul is not recorded but the transformation of the waistline must have been papers of King James I, six "Mins Pyes of an indifferent bignesse' needed half a peck (a gallon) of flour, a loin of fat mutton, two pounds of sugar, two pounds of butter, two pounds of raisins, two pounds of currents and six case. not to mention other ingredients. What you think of Cromwell may depend on your shape.

Yours faithfully, ANDREW ANDERSON. 1 The Close, Norwich, Norfolk.

From Mrs Jennifer J. Laney Sir, At last, a use for those irritatingly small new five pence pieces. Ideal for putting into the Christmas pudding, provided they are well wrapped up in greaseproof paper.

Yours truly, JENNIFER J. LANEY, Barn Cottage, Nottington Lanc. Weymouth, Dorset.

From the Reverend R. J.

Kingsbury Sir, I shall have to kiss rather a lot of people at Christmas, I gather one makes a noise at moment of cheekly impact. Last year the prevailing sound at church door was "Mwa!" Is this still de rienem for Christmas 1990 or is there a new exhalation of which I thould

be aware? Yours sincerely, RICHARD KINGSBURY, Caversham Rectory. 20 Church Road, Caversham, Reading, Berkshire.

December 20. From Miss Emma Slater Sir, Our first carol singers of the year showed just how times have changed, with caterprise at its height. The three young moguli asked: "Would you like us to sing you a carol? Twenty-five per coat

goes to charity!" Yours sincerely **EMMA SLATER** 97 Skip Lanc.

Walsall, West Midlands.

From Mr David Cremin Sir. On returning from singing carols in aid of Guide Dogs for the Blind my taxi driver, learning that £457 had been collected, added £3 "to round up the figure". This season of the year still provides the opportunity to restore one's faith in one's fellow man.

Yours etc., DAVID CREMIN. 2 Tarnbrook Court. 9 Holbein Place, 5W1.

From Professor Bryan N. Brooke Sir, The source of seasonal greetings from those who assume that the recipient will immediately identify them from their Christian names alone provides an entertaining seasonal game in which the postmark presents a useful cine providing the envelope has not

been rashly discarded. This year the ultimate test arrived: no name, no address, only formal greetings and the postmark

- Tonbridge. Yours faithfully. BRYAN N. BROOKE, 112 Balham Park Road, SW12.

From Mr Allen Carter Sir, The Japanese drive to higher levels of quality has removed yet another of our traditional Christmas picasures.

I removed my "Eastern Import" Christmas tree lights from their box, placed them on the tree and for the third consecutive year they hit first time. Do the makers not realise what

they have done? Fixing the tree lights was the last bastion of male superiority in our household over the holiday break. Yours faithfully, ALLEN CARTER, 77 Wellington Road. Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire. December 20.

From Mr Charles Scott Sir, In this enlightened age of goodwill to all trees ought we to be felling millions of spruce for

Christmas? Yours aye. CHARLES SCOTT, 5 Tankerville Terrace. Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Santa claws

From Mr Wynne Weston-Davies Sir, Today I saw the vehicleremoval team of an official contractor hoisting an illegally parked car outside Harrods. The team leader was dressed as Santa Claus. Is this what is meant, or at any

rate intended, by spirit of Christ-WYNNE WESTON-DAVIES.

12 Fitzwilliam Road, SW4.

December 22.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID HARDING,
I Brookend Cottages, Luckington,
Wiltshire.

Letters to the current section.

daytime telephone number. They
may be sent to a fax number of the current section.

(971) 782 5046.

BASIL HENSON

COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM December 23: Divine Service was held in Sandringham Parish Church this morning. The Baptism of the Infant Daughter of The Duke and Duchess of York was admin-

istered during the Divine Service. The Bishop of Norwich (the Right Reverend Peter Nott),

assisted by the Reverend Canon George Hall (Domestic Chaplain to The Queen), baptised the Infant Princess, who received the names of Eugenie Victoria

The sponsors were: Mr. James Ogilvy, Captain Alastair Ross, RN, Mrs. Ronald Ferguson, Mrs. Patrick Dodd-Noble and Miss Louise Blacker.

between Crispin, only son of Mr

and Mrs Richard Odey, of

Hotham, York, and Nichola,

youngest daughter of Sir Richard and Lady Pease, of Hindley House, Stocksfield, Northumberland.

between James Henry Lavallin

elder son of Mr and Mrs John

Colonel and Mrs Iain Ferguson,

of Cropley Grove, Ousden,

The engagement is announced

between Major Roly Rickcord

16th/5th The Queens Royal

Lancers, only son of the late

Lieutenant-Colonel Gerald

Rickcord and of Mrs Gerald

Rickcord, of Exford, Somerset,

and Victoria, only daughter of

Mr and Mrs Giles Rowsell, of

West Stoke Farm, Stoke

The engagement is announced

between Terence Edward Rob-

erts, son of Mr and Mrs Thomas

Whale, of Chatham, Kent, and

Sarah Catherine, elder daughter

of the Right Rev and Mrs

Richard Llewellin, of Truso,

between Timothy Ryland and

Jean Muirhead, both of London.

The engagement is announced

between John, son of Rowland

and Sheila Tysoe, of Cranleigh,

Surrey, and Emma, daughter of

Geoffrey and Margaret

Battman, of Tanworth-in-Ar-

The following have been elected

to Fellowship and are permitted

to use the designatory letters

His Honour Judge Ryland

and Miss J.M. Muirhead

Mr A.J.H. Tysoe

den, Warwickshire.

Institute of

Biology

CBiol FIBiol:

Dr P.J.R. Goulder

Mr P.L. Leiot

and Miss V.A. Burdett

The marriage took place on

November 29, 1990, at

Durham, United States, of Dr

Philip Goulder, son of Dr and

Mrs Michael Goulder, and Miss

Vanessa Burdett, daughter of

between Mr Paul Lejot, son of

Golders Green, London, and

Mr and Mrs Gordon Harris, of

Mr and Mrs Tom Burdett.

and Miss K.E. Harris

Clark was best man.

and Miss M.J. Brown

Mrs Rita Brown.

family and friends.

Mr Graham Matthews

on Saturday, December 22, at

Christopher Wilkinson, RN,

son of the late Mr V.J.

Wilkinson and of Mrs M.E.B.

Wilkinson, and Miss Moira J.

afterwards at their home in

Mr Graham Matthews wishes

his friends a Merry Christmas

held over to Boxing Day

and a Very Happy New Year.

and Miss E.L. Battman

Deborah Anne, only daught

Newmarket, Suffolk.

Major R.G. Rickcord

Miss V.K.A. Rowsell

Charity, Hampshire.

and Miss S.C. Liewellin

Mr T.E. Roberts

Cornwall.

Mr R.C.Odey and Miss N. Pease

Mr J.H.L. Paxley

and Mrs D.A. Peodey

Forthcoming marriages

Mr L Barrass and Miss S.E. Kendell The engagement is announced The engagement is announced between Ian, younger son of Mrs Jannice Barrass and the late Mr Ernest Barrass, of Hampsthwaite. North Yorkshire, and Sarah, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs Peter Kendell, of Kenley, Mr N.P. Bertioli

and Miss S. Adams The engagement is announced between Nigel, elder son of Mr and Mrs M.M. Bertioli, of Woodhouse Eaves, Leicester- Puxley, of Welford Park shire, and Sybil, daughter of Mrs Newbury, Berkshire, and Argyll, and the late Mr H. Adams.

Mr Z.E. Chelminski and Ms F.H. Mann The engagement is announced between Zygmunt Edward, son of Edward and Maria Chelminscy, of Cracow, and Hilary, daughter of Gerard and Frances Mann, of Beckenham, Kent, and Ballina, Co Mayo, Eire. The wedding will take place on December 28, 1990.

Mr S.N. Fairbank and Miss C.J.B. Sanders The engagement is announced between Simon Nevill, son of the late John Anthony Fairbank and of Mrs Fairbank, of Bramley, Surrey, and Catherine Jane, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Andrew Sanders, of Hemp-

Mr J. Henniquin and Miss S. Stewart

stead, Essex.

The engagement is announced between Mr J. Henniquin and Samantha, only daughter of Mr The engagement is announced and Mrs M. Stewart, of Chisleburst Kent

Mir D. Kemp and Miss A. Frost The engagement is announced

between Dominic, son of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Kemp, of 25 King Charles Walk, London, SW19, and Annabel, eldest daughter of the late Mr Henry Frost and of Mrs William Mellen, of Moors Farm, West Daventry, Farndon, Northamptonshire.

Mr MLB. Nichols and Miss S.D. Pyle The engagement is announced between Mark Brian, elder son of Mr Brian Cooper Nichols, of Hutton Rudby, North York-shire, and Mrs Cicely J. Nichols, of Cheadle Hulme, Cheshire, and Susan Deborah, only daughter of Mr and Mrs William Pyle, of Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Dr A E Blanco, Professor N J Birch, Sir Waller Bodmer, Dr A J Bramley, Dr J R G Challis, Dr M J Crawley, Dr A L Davison, Mr E F Greenwood, Professor J T Knowler, Dr R J Lock, Dr R E L Naylor, Mr M J S Sands, Dr K J Seal, Professor P R Shewry, Dr R A Skerlington, Dr J Smartt, Dr D E S Truman, Professor R S Verma, Mr G M Williams. Hutton Rudby, North York-

Marriages

Mr J.G. Heywood and Lady Sophia Meade The marriage took place on Saturday at St George's, Preshute, Wiltshire, of Mr Jonathan Heywood, son of Brigadier and Mrs Anthony Heywood, of Monkton House, Monkton Deverill, Wiltshire, to Lady Sophia Meade, daughter of the late Earl of Clanwilliam and of Catherine Countess of Clan-

william, of Maizley Cottage, Oare, Mariborough, Wiltshire. The Rev C. Fox officiated, assisted by the Rev J. Sargant. The bride, who was given in marriage by Mr Nicholas Timpson, was attended by Viscount Corry, Edward and James Boord, Nicholas Reid, Milo Hiscox, Kitty Timpson, Amelia Reid and Georgina and Miranda Boord. Mr Anthony

Waterson was best man. A reception was held at Rainscombe Park and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mir D.J. Peniston and Miss L. Hodgson A service of blessing was held on Saturday at All Saints' Church. London, SW6, after the The marriage took place quietly marriage which took place on December 20 of Mr Douglas Peniston, son of the late Mr Malcolm Peniston and of the Hon Mrs Stewart, of Castle Douglas, to Miss Lyana Hodgson, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Hodgson, of Tiverton, Cheshire. Prebendary K.N. Bowler officiated.

Mr N. Gisborne and Miss C. Lewis The marriage took place on Monday, December 17, at Islington Town Hall, of Mr. Nikolas Gisborne and Miss

Caroline Lewis. Miss Victoria Lewis and Miss Lara Gisborne were witnesses and Mr Ivan Maurse was best

Claridges and the honeymoon is Nature notes has been being spent abroad.

Birthdays

Princess Alice Duchess of CHRISTMAS DAY: Lord Gloucester and Princess Alexandra celebrate their birthdays on Christmas Day.

mer MP, 82: Sir Stafford Foster-Moynihan, former chairman, chairman, Wates Building Save the Children Fund, 74: Group, 51; Lord Westwood, 83, Chapter May Country Save Chapter Fund, 74: Group, 51; Lord Westwood, 83, Chapter May Country Save Chapter. director, WRAC. 75; Mr Ivan

Annan, 74; Baroness Berners, 89: Mr James Bolger, racehorse trainer, 49: Miss S.J. Browne, CHRISTMAS EVE: Mr J.K. Cambridge, 66; Mr Kenny Ev-Asheroit, former chairman, eren, broadcaster, 46; Lord Cotoroll Group, 42: Mr A.T. Grade, 84; the Right Rev Noel Baillie, diplomat. 58; Mrs Mair Jones, Bishop of Sodor and Barnes, managing director, Man, 58; Miss Annie Lennox, Woolworths, 46; Mr Colin singer, 36; Sir Peter Matthews, Cowdrey, cricketer, 58; Briga- former Chief Constable of dier Dame Barbara Cozens. Surrey, 73; Mr Ismail Merchant, former director. Army Nursing film producer, 54; Sir Charles Services, S4: Lieutenant-Colo- Mott-Radelyffe, former MP, 79; nel Sir Vivian Dunn, 82; Sir Professor Phyllida Parsloe, Gerald Elliot, former chairman. professor of social work, 60; Sir Christian Salvesen, 67; Sir Allen Sheppard, chairman and Nicholas Fairbairn, QC, MP, chief executive. Grand Metro-57: Mr Ernest Fernyhough, for- politan, 58; Mr Nigel Starmer-Smith, sports commentator, 46; Sutton, QC. 92: Mr Jeremy Sir Noel Stockdale, life presi-Hindley, racchorse trainer, 47; dent, Asda Group, 70; the Right Dame Joan Kelleher, former Rev B.N.Y. Vaughan, former

OBITUARIES

HARRY BRADSHAW

Harry Bradshaw, Irish golfer, has died at the age of 77. He was born in Delgany, Co Wicklow, on October 9, 1913.

THE name of Harry Bradshaw is remembered for many exploits within the game of golf, but for none more than his attempt to win the Open championship at Sandwich in 1949. He eventually lost a play-off against Bobby Locke of South Africa, but not before events which have their place in the lore of the game.

With the formidable line-up of talent contesting the 1949 title few had given the Irishman much chance, though he had been five times Irish professional champion to that date. His swing seemed to purists to have an agricultural quality, while his three-finger overlapping grip dismayed the theorists of those times.

However when he was still leading an international field at the end of the two qualifying rounds the experts seemed likely to be confounded in their predictions. Nevertheless disaster struck in the second round when an expectant crowd saw Bradshaw pull his ball into the rough at the fifth hole. When Bradshaw came up to play the ball onto the green he found it had run into the neck of a broken beer bottle. He was never a connoisseur of the rules and without waiting to see whether he could get relief (as would be possible today) he closed his eyes and swung with his heaviest niblick at both bottle and ball. With glass flying in



all directions the ball even- who went on to win the title tually trundled 30 yards onto three more times, proved far the fairway. But the freak too strong for Bradshaw who accident was fatal to went down to a crushing 12-Bradshaw's chances, costing stroke defeat. him a six at that hole, allowing

Bradshaw had many other Locke to force a tie with both successes to set against this from the local favourite, Dai men on 283 at the end of the memorable loss. His name Rees. Bradshaw was voted competition. In the 36-hole was synonymous with the Golfer of the Year for his play-off the South African, Portmarnock golf club, with achievements of 1958.

which he had been associated for 40 years. He was a popular character on the circuit with his genial, jovial personality and deceptively relaxed, al most nonchalant playing style. Altogether he was 10 times Irish professional champion between 1941 and 1957, and he twice won the Irish Open, in 1947 and 1949. He had two victories in the Dunlop Masters tournament to his credit, in 1953 and 1955. The first of these was his first major win outside Ireland, achieved, astonishingly, at the age of 40, and it launched him on his international career. He is also remembered for

his three appearances for Great Britain and Ireland in the Ryder Cup against the United States in 1953, 1955 and 1957, the last occasion producing a memorable victory for the home team. The next time the United States were defeated in the Ryder Cup was in 1985 when the home team was now Europe. Bradshaw had a long career, to victory in the Canada (now World) Cup in Mexico City in 1958, though he was beaten for the individual title at the

third hole of a play-off by Angel Miguel of Spain. In the same year he had an exciting victory in the PGA national championship at Llandudno when he came from three strokes down with five holes to play, to win by one shot

December 19 at his home in Sevenoaks aged 72. He was born on July 31, 1918. FOR 44 years, Basil Henson was one of the most recognisable and distinctive actors in Britain. His career culminated in an astonishing unbroken run of 12 years at the National Theatre, where his delightfully eccentric, urbane and military manner embellished 30 productions by Sir Peter Hall, Peter Gill, and every other leading direc-

Born in London, the son of professional soldier and occasional actor, Captain Hugh Henson, and his actress wife, Gladys Guy, Basil Henson's interest in the theatre began at the age of 12, when he played Portia in a production of The Merchant of Venice at his prep school, St Cuthbert's. He went on to Malvern College and to the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst.

tor at the National.

In 1939 on the outbreak of the second world war he partnering Christy O'Connor joined the Indian Army, serving as a major in the Royal Gharwal Rifles. He continued to hanker after the theatre, however, and when the war ended, he made his professional debut in 1946 as a most unlikely chorus boy in a revival of Ivor Novello's The Dancing Years at the London Casino. His first wife, whom he met

in India in 1941, died only 18 months after their wedding. He married secondly the musical comedy actress Eleanor Drew with whom he appeared in the original production of Julian Slade's Salad Days at the Bristol Old Vic in 1954. This transferred to its long West End run without him, as he had meanwhile been offered a role with Margaret Leighton and Eric Portman in Terence Rattigan's Separate Tables, in which he made his first major success on the London stage. Also in the cast was the beautiful blonde actress Patricia Raine, daughter of the celebrated musical comedy star, Binnie Hale. Henson and Miss Raine appeared together again in 1956 with Sir John Gielgud in Noël Coward's comedy Nude with Violin at the Globe Theatre. By then, they had fallen in love, and she became his third wife in

In 1960. Henson joined Vanessa Redgrave and Dame played The Colonel, a role to Gladys Cooper in Look on Tempests, one of the West precision, authority and End's earliest forays into homosexuality, and in 1961-2, had distinguished his entire he played opposite Vivien career. Leigh on the Old Vic tour of He is survived by his third Australia, New Zealand and wife, Patricia Raine, by two South America, during which sons, Nigel and Jeremy, of his he coped skilfully with Miss second marriage to Eleanor Leigh's temperamental out- Drew, and by a daughter and bursts, occasioned, some step-daughter, Belle and

Malvolio in Twelfth Night Basil Henson, the stage, film won rave notices everywhere and television actor, died on and was considered the highlight of the tour.

He was essentially a stage actor, but he appeared with considerable distinction in films, notably with Donald Pleasence in Dr Crippen (1962), with Dirk Bogarde in John Schlesinger's Darling (1965), with Sir Alec Guinness in Cromwell (1970), and with Topol in Galileo (1975). On television, he was seen in Toistoy's War and Peace, in Shades of Greene, Fawlty Towers, and most memorably, When the Boat Comes In.

His appearance at the Royal Court in 1978 in Michael Hastings's play, For The West, led to his long reign at the National The play visited the Cottesloe for a week, where it was seen by David Hare, who offered him the role of Sir Leonard Darwin in his play

That was the first of 30 memorable characterisations at the National. Others that linger happily in the mind are his autocratic Fleet Street editor, Eliot Fruit-Norton, in Hare's Pravda (during which he appeared concurrently in Tom



Stoppard's Dalliance) and his Belarius in Cymbeline. A close friend of Dustin Hoffman. Henson appeared with him, as the Duke of Venice, in the recent London season of The Merchant of Venice at the Phoenix Theatre and was invited by Hoffman to join him in the subsequent Broadway production at the 46th Street Theatre.

Until two nights before his death. Henson was appearing at the National Theatre in Trevor Griffiths's current play, Piano, in which he which he brought all the quintessential Britishness that

thought, by the fact that his Anna, of his third marriage.

EDMUND AKENHEAD

Edmund Akenhead, editor of The Times crossword from 1965 to 1983, died on December 22 aged 77. He was born in September 1913.

THROUGHOUT his 18-year reign as editor of The Times crossword Edmund Akenhead's first care was to see that the clues and answers were manifestly fair and correct, and that the puzzle could be solved by the intelligent man in the railway carriage without reference books. This sounds simple, but it called for an immensely well-stocked mind, the patience to check every fact and reference, and the wisdom to know when his compilers were becoming too clever by

When he took over the editorship in 1965 he began the practice of returning edited puzzles to their compilers with detailed reasons for his alterations, which quickly produced a consistent standard of excellence from his team of 10 compilers, most of whom he himself recruited. He allowed no sloppiness of thought or expression: "As a lawyer I cannot pass IOU as meaning debt. It is evidence of acknowledgment of debt": or, "The dictionaries do not define okani as a giraffe. The fact that it is related to the giraffe does not make it one."

He also enlarged the wit and range of



1970 of the Jumbo puzzle, the commodious 27-letter square that appears on high days and holidays, which he compiled single-handed from the outset. In his speech on the retirement of Akenhead in 1983, Roy Dean, the winner of the first Times crossword championship, said of the Jumbo: "What elephantine elegance, what breadth of erudition, what excitement as the solver is led on from Shakespeare to Shaw, from Bible to Brewer, from ancient Greece to modern the puzzle, notably by his invention in science, until the onset of writer's cramp

clued as "A knowledge master". Akenhead was educated at Rugby, where he was on the classical side, and qualified as a solicitor in 1936, when he joined the family firm in Newbort, After war service as a lieutenant-colonel in the

forces the pen from his fingers. How

fitting that the name of Akenhead can be

Glider Pilot Regiment he took a legal post in the Colonial Service in Dar-es-Salaam, where he first set crosswords for the Tanganyika Standard. He became the third editor of The Times crossword on his return to Britain in 1965. In his own puzzles Edmund Akenhead

was a witty craftsman and perfectionist From time to time he would compile a grid containing all the letters of the alphabet, and consider it reward enough if one perceptive reader spotted it. At the same time he would use phrases like Walpurgis Night which warier compilers would shy away from as being virtually unclueable, and somehow wrest a witty clue from such intractable material. There was, too, a quality of Englishness about his puzzles, notably in his fondness for submerged quotations from Shakespeare, the Bible, Gilbert and Sullivan, Kipling and Lewis Carroll His coat of arms, granted by the College of Heralds in 1989, incorporates a miniature crossword puzzle.

He leaves a widow and two sons.

Christmas services

are in Italica.

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 3 Carol Service, Farmins flas (Dall albero), The Little Road to Betalehem (Flead), There is no Rose (Vann), Lully Lulla (Leighton), I sing of a mudden (Hadley), Angels Carol (Rutter), The Tree of Life (Piccolo), Mary's Lullaby (Rutter); 5 E. Responses (Waish), Howells in G, Sing Lullaby (Wright): 8 HC: 10 M. Ave Ave Maria (art Wood), Responses (Waish), Britten in G, O Magnum Mysterium (Poulenc); 11 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Waish), A lender shoot (Goldschandd), The Archbishop; 3.15 E. Responses (Walsh), Dyson in D & Carols.

YORK MINSTER: 3 EP: 4 Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols.

YORK MINSTER: 3 EP: 4 Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols.

YORK MINSTER: 3 In E. Responses (Rose), Collegium Regale (Howells), Very Rev J Southgate: 4 E. Wood in F. Hodie Christus natus est (Sweelinck). The marriage took place on Saturday, December 15, at St John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, Mr and Mrs Louis Lejot, of Miss Karen Harris, daughter of Marylebone, London. The Very Rev Christopher Phillips The bride, who was given in itnek).

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL: 3 E: 4

Carpl Service & Blessing of the Crib; 11.30

Midnight Mass, Messe de minuit
(Charpentier), Rev J Hallibuston: 8 HC:
10.30 M. Stanford in C. Very Rev E.
Evans: 11.30 HC. Messe de Minuit
(Charpentier), Hodie Christus natus
est (Sweelinck), The Lord Bishop of
London: 3.15 E. Dynon in D. For unto
US 8 child is born (Handel), in duic)
jubilo (art Pearson). marriage by her father, was attended by Miss Diane Curry, Miss Miriam Harris and Master Christopher Lord. Mr William Lieutenant C.M. Wilkinson, RN Stockport, of Lieutenant Christmas Carols (Vaughan Williams).

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 11.30

Midnight Euch, Missa Sanch Nicolaid
(litydin), Quem vidistis pationes (Poidenc),
Wither's Rocking Hymm (Vaughan Williams), The Bushop of Southwark: 11

Euch, Schubert in G. Let all mortal
flesh keep silence (Bairstow), Sans
Day Carol (air Ruther), The Provost,
WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: 4.15

Pontifical First Verrers of Christman HE
The Cardinal, Magnifical octave toni
(Marenzio), O magnini mysterium (Pozieric), In dusc tubilo (Back), 5.30 Vigil
Mass with Carols; 11.15 Vigil & Midnight
Mass, Coronation Mass (Mozart), For
unto us a child is born (Flandel), Hodie
christus natus est (Poidenc), Flaurish
(Grier): 7. 8. 9, 10.30 SM, Missa Sancti
Nicolai (Haydin), Hodie Christins natus
est (Sweelinck), Final from Syrophonie VI (Vierne), HE The Cardinal,
12 SM: 3.30 V & B, Magnificat octavi
toni (Bevan), The Lamb (Tavener), bi
the Bleak Midwinier (Darles), Toccata
(Widor),

ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, South-Brown, only daughter of the late Mr Thomas K. Brown and of A reception was held Cheadle Hulme, for immediate ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, South-warte: 3.30 Children's Crib Service, 21.30 Waric 3.30 Children's Crib Service, 11.30
Readings & Carols, Midnight Mass, Archbishop M Bowers 8 Mass, Carols: 10 Family Mass, Archbishop M Bowers; 11.30 Mass, Carols, Caron J P Pannest.

GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL OF THE DIVINE WISDOM, Moscow Rd, W2: 4.30 Christmas V: 9.50 Royal Hours; 11 Divine Liturgy.

RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL OF THE DORMITION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD, Ensistence Game, SWT: Christmas celebrated by the Old Calender.

SERBIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL OF ST SAVVA. Lancister Rd. W1: Carolinas celebrated by the Old Calender. THE CHAPEL ROYAL, St. James's Palace: 8.30 HC: 11.15 S Exch. Jackson in G. Canon A D Caestr.

QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY, WC2: 11 S Euch. Darke in F. The Chapitain.

ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL. Chaptain.

ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL.

Greenwich, SE10: 10.30 S Buch with Carols. The Chaptain.

GUARDS CHAPEL. Wellington Barracks, SW1: //./3 Carols at the Manger, //.30 Mutnight HC & Carols. Darie in F, Rev S P Purselle 11 M. House Christus natus est (Sweelink). O magnism mysterium (Pelestrina), The Grenadier Guards. The Chaptain; 12 HC.

GRAY'S INN CHAPEL: 8-30 HC.

Caron E James.

TOWER OF LONDON, EC3: // 30 HC.

TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street, EC4: 8-30 HC. 11.15 MP & HC. Break forth O beauteous heavenly light (Bach). Responses (Rose). Vaughum Williams in G. Dyson in D. Gioria in excelsis Dec (Weelkes). The Master.

ST CLEMENT DANES (RAF Church) WC2: //.jo Euch. Darke in F. O Magnum Mysterum (Vactoria), Rev W J D Sirr: 9 HC. 11 Euch. Stanford in C. O Little One Sweet (Bach). Rev W J D Sirr: 9 HC. 11 Euch. Stanford in C.

ST MARY-LE-STRAND (WRNS Church). Strand WC2: 11.30 HC & Carols: 11 Sung Communion & Carols. ST MATTHEW'S, Great Peter St. SW1: 12 S Buch, Rev Dr Lynn: 10 S Euch, The Vicar. Euch, The Vicar.

ST MCHAEL'S. Chester Square.

6W1: 1130 Midwight Communion, Rev

D C L Prior. 8.15, 12.15 HC; 11

Family Service, Rev N Taylor.

ST MICHAEL'S, Cornhill. ECS; 11

Euch, Missa Brevis (Palestrina). Hodie
Christus natus est (Sweelinck).

ST PAUL'S. Wilton Place. SW1: 5

Children's Service, Rev B Blakeley 11.30

Midsight Euch, Missa Brevis in C. major
(Mocarl), Carols, Rev C Courtauld: 8, 9

HC; 11 S Euch, Missa Sencti Johannis
de Deo (Haydn), Carols. Rev H

Ruschmeyer. ALL SOULS. Languam Place, W1: 11.30 Communion Service, Rev S Wookey: 10.30 Family Service, Prev R Bewen, 10.30 Family Service, Pres R
Bewen,
CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, Old
Church Street, SW3: 11.45 HC: 8, 12
HC: 10 Children's Service: 11 M, Pres
C E L Thomson,
CHRIST CHURCH, CHELSEA, SW3:
11.30 Midnight Euch, Rev S Acland: 8,
12 HC: 11 Morning Service, Rev S
Watson. ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SW1: 5
Children's Crib Service: 11.30 Midmela
Mass, Missa ad praesepe (Malcolm), Fr A
Chalmole 8.15 HC: 10 Family Mass,
Carols: 11 SM. Missa Puer natus est
(Tallis), Verbum caro (Sheppard), Fr D
Tillyer. HOLY TRINITY. Prince Conscrit Road, SW7: 8.30 HC: 11 MP & HC. Rev Dr M Israel. HOLY TRINITY. Stoone Street. SW1: 8.45 HC: 10.30 Euch, Rev K Yates. ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT. Smithfield, EC1: 11.45 Michaeld Euch. O Magnum Mysterium (Victoria): 11 Children's Service. ST SIMON ZELOTES. Milner Street, SW3: 11.45 Communion, Rev G James: 8 HC: 11 Family Communion, Rev G Children's Service.

ST BRIDE'S. Fleet Street. EC4: 11.30
Candlelit Midright Mass: 11 Euch,
Canon J Oeles.

ST CUTHBERT'S. Philipench Gardens
SWS: 11.45 Midnight Mass, Darke in E.
Nativity Carol (Rutter): B HC: 10.50 S
Euch, Rev J Vine.

ST GEORGE'S. Hanover Square, W1:
B.30 HC: 11 S Euch, Darke in F.
Christ was born on Christmas Day
(trad), The Rector.

ST GILES-IN-THE-FIELDS. St Giles
High St. WC2 11.45 Midnight HC &
Hymns: B. 12 HC: 11 MP. Rev G G
Taylor.

ST JAMES'S. Garlickhythe, FC4: ST STEPHEN'S. Gloucester Road.
SW7: Mubnight Mass & Blessing of the
Crib. Missa Brevis (Wullis), Fr C Colven:
8. 9 LM: 11 SM. Missa Brevis
(Britten). Fr J Towers. Rev R Avent.

THE ANNUNCIATION, Bryanston Street, W1: 11.30 SM, Missa Festing (Greechaninoff). A babe is born (Mathias): 11 SM, Coronation Mass (Mozart), Sir Ciristemas (Mathias): 6 LM & B.

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, SW1: 11.30 Candiclipiat Service: 10 HC: 11 Family Service. ST JAMES'S. Garlickhythe. EC4: 10.30 S Euch, The Rector. CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOT.
LAND. Covent Garden. WC2: 1130
Watchnight Service, Rev J A M Downwell:
11 Christmas Day Service. Rev J A M
Dowswell. ST JAMES'S. Sussex Gardens, W2: 5.30 Carols at the Crib with Paddington Bear, 11.30 Mubright Sevince, Sparrow Mass (Mozeri), Rev G Buckle, 10.30 S Euch. Missa Rotate Coeli de Super Chayda), The Vicar.

ST JOHN'S. Hyde Park Crescent, W2: 5.30 Children's Sevince. Rev R Callaghan; 11.30 Mudnight Communion, Canon T Birchard: 8 HC, 10 Family Communion, Canon T Birchard: 8 HC, 10 Family Communion with Children's Church, Rev O Ross: 6.30 Carols at the Crib (for children), Rev R Callaghan. THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 1130 Carols, Messe de Munuit (Charpentier).
CHURCH OF OUR LADY, Lisson Crove, St John's Wood: 11.15 Carols & Midnight Mass, Missa ad Pruesepe (Malcolm): 10.45 Mass. Missa a 4 voci Quoteverdi). Carols. 11 SM, Fr G Bright.
ST JOHN THE DIVINE, Vassali Rd.
SW9: 11.45 HM. Little Organ Mast
(Haydn); 8 LM: 10 HM. Mass for three
voices (Byrd). Coventry Carol.
ST JOHN'S WOOD CHURCH, NW8: 5
Children's Carol Service, 11.30 Midnight
Mass, Missa Sancti Nicolai (Haydn), 0
Magnam Mysterium (Poulenc): 8 HC:
9.30 Parish Communion; 11 S Euch.
Communion Service in C (Stanford).
In the bleak midwinter (Darke), Rev D
Firth. W7: 6 Vigil Mass; [1.30 Christmas Music, Midstehn Mass, St Credia Mass (Gownod), Halletujah Chorus (Handel): 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Spatzenmesse (Mazart), Adesie fidelis (trad), 12.30, 4.30 Mass: 3.30 B. ST ETHELDREDA'S, Ely Place: Mid-night Mass, Missa Rorde coell desuper (Haydn), Of a rase is all my song (Leighton), Hymn to the Virgin (Bruten), in Duice Jubilo (Bach). 8T MARY'S. Cadopan Street, SW3; 11,30 Mass of the Nativity, O Quam Gioriosum (Vitiona), Ecor Concipies (Handl): 8-30, 10 (Family), 11, 12-15 Mass. ST LUKE'S. Chalsen. SW3: 4 Crib Service, 11.30 Midnight Euch, Schubert in G. Away in a manger (art Willcocks), Rev S Wasson: 8. 11.30 MC: 10.30 Morning Service, Jesus Christ the Apple Tree (art Poston). Rev D Watson. OUR LADY OF VICTORIES, Kensington High Street, W8: 11.35 Procession to the Crib. Midnight Mass, Mass in DiMazari, O magnum mysterium (Byrd): 8.30, 10, 12.30 LM; 11.16 SM, Quern pastors inudavere (anoth).
HINDE STREET METHODIST CHURCH, W1: 11.15 Christmas Communication to Christmas Day Service. ST MARK'S, Regents Park Rd, NW1: 11.30 Midnight Mass & Blessing of the Crib, Mass in C (Mozart), Caroli, Rev J Humble: B HC: 10.30 S Euch, Missa Secunda (Hassier), Carola, The Bishop of Edmonton. Secunda (Hamier), Carola, The Bishop of Edmonton.

ST MARCIARET'S. Westralpster.

SW1: 11.15 Mudwight Euch. Dominus dunt ad me, Missa Saneut Nieplan (Haydn), Puer natus in Bethlehem (Scheidt). O Magnum Mysterum (Gabrielt). The Rector. 11 M. Hodie Christus natus est. Rusponnes (Rose). Vaughan Williams in G. Resonet in Landitus (Handi), Rev R Holloway: 12.16 HC.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 6.30 Parish Carol Service, The Coverty Carol, Silent Night, Qu'elle est crite odeur, 11.30 Mudwight Mass, St Martin's Service (Siringer). The Christmas Night (Rutter), The Vicar. 8 HC: 9.48 Euch. Hodie Christins natus est (Wells), St Martin's Service (Stringer). Str Christenas Chashias). Rev M. Henwood: 11.30 Visitors to London Service. Rev J. Priamore: 2.48 Crimese Service (HC). Rev G. Let: 6.30 Carols around the Cartstmas Tree.

ST MARY'S, Bourne Street, SW1: 11.30 Carols followed by Midmight Mass. Missa Brevs in D. (Mazarl), Hodie Christins natus est (Gabrich). A child is form in Bethlehem (Scheid). Fr. N. Kananagh: 9 LM: 10.30 HM. Missa Octavi tool (Letsus). Carols, Dr. B. Hottic. KENSINGTON TEMPLE. (Charismatic). Notiting Hill Gale. W11: //
Communion Service. Calin Duc. 10
Christman Day Service. Lyndon
Bowring.
KENSINGTON URC. Allen Street.
W8: 11 Rev P Lovelt.
RÉCENT SQUARE PRESBYTERIAN
URC. Tavistock Place, WC1: 11 Rev
Dr R Scopes. ST ANNE AND ST AGNES CLUthereni. Gresham St. SC2: 7 Family
Carol Service, Rev H M Zorn; II
Candlelight HC. Rev R T England: 11
HC, Rev V F Frazier.
WESLEY'S CHAPEL City Road, EC2:
II.30 Mainight Communion, Rev P
Halme 10.30 Morning Service, Rev P
Hulme.

Matthew Arnold, poet and WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL Critic, Daleham, Middlesex, Communion Service: 10.30 40-Minute Family Service. Rev Dr R J Tudor. WESTMINSTER CHAPEL Bucking ham Gate. Swi: 11 Dr R T Kendell and writer, Blackburn, 1838;

Richard Harries

Moment of insight that led to belief in the incarnation

roundabout way. It was not through the Bible or a sermon but through reading a now outmoded study of comparative religion.

Sitting in a gaunt German barrack block in 1957 I was struck by the thesis of Aldous Huxley's Perennial Philosophy that at the heart of every religion is the paradox that we find ourselves by losing ourselves: that we discover our true self by giving ourselves away. In one of those lifechanging moments of insight two thoughts quickly followed and merged into one conviction. If this paradox is at the heart of every religion, then this must be the best clue we have as to the nature of ultimate reality. And if God himself is like this, then what more sublime expression of giving oneself away could there be than the incarnation. mortal and vulnerable as any other human person? The how can we not believe in the incarnation?

Since then this conviction has been strengthened by other considerations. In the 19th century when lepers were strictly separated from society a good number were shipped off to isolated islands. Father Damien went to work on one such island, transforming the life of the lepers by starting an orchestra, building a church and bringing hope. One day the inevitable happened and he found that he could not tell

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Scugnizzi, whom no one else come all evil had been able to help, joined one of their gangs and gained God was justified in creating a their trust from inside; the world in which children suffer. Anglo-Catholic slum priests of Is it possible even to consider the last century who im- any answer which does not mersed themselves in the lives include a belief that God of their neighbourhood and himself shares that anguish to the liberation theologians of the full, from the inside, today who know that genuine taking the same risks as any of theology can only arise out of his creatures? genuine solidarity with the poor. This is a pattern based on the conviction that the impossible to believe. It is so most valuable help is not much easier to settle for the given from afar, in a detached idea that Jesus is an ordinary way, but alongside people, man inspired. Yet the logic of sharing their sorrows and struggle. Could this emphasis who Jesus is, but what it might have been so strong in Christhe immortal becoming as tian history without a belief in of love. It is love which makes the God who said "Now I am one of you;" a God who has paradox that because the intrain of thought was not the gained our trust from the carnation is unbelievable it is FARM STREET, WI: 11.45 Missa Santi logic of philosophy but of inside as one of us, who has believable, the orange of the carnation is logic of philosophy but of inside as one of us, who has believable, the orange of the carnation is logic of philosophy but of inside as one of us, who has believable, love. If God is a God of love immersed himself in our life, it is true. inside as one of us; who has believable, because it is absurd who is in solidarity with us his children, liberating our hu- so hopeful is now faced with man history? Even the stress the prospect of a horrendous in modern counselling on sharing alongside the one in

distress, simply being attentive to their pain and acknowledging it for what it is, could owe something to a Christian understanding of love defined by the incarnation of God.

suffering which the Buddha rightly regarded as the primary question of human exis- The writer is Bishop of Oxford

CAME to believe in the whether his bath water was tence. For him the answer was incarnation in a somewhat hot or cold. He began his found in an inner detachment sermon that Sunday with the from all pain and pleasure. words "Now I am one of you." For a Christian the approach This pattern of Christian is different: through a God living has been endlessly re- who himself shares human peated in Christian history: anguish to the full and who Father Borelli in Naples who from within the flux of human in order to reach the events will in the end over-

> Dostoevsky asked whether A full blooded faith in the

incarnation seems quite love pushes us to ask not just mean to define God as a God us feel the force of Tertullian's

A world that in 1989 looked war, unnerving instability in the Soviet Union and starvation again in Ethiopia. The logic of divine love, which points to the incarnation, challenges us to alleviate suffering and promote human well being. Whether things look good or bad, whether the Then there is the problem of times are propitious or unpropitious, God is with us in that task.

1620. Nicolae Ceausescu.

Romanian dictator was exe-

Anniversaries

Chichester, 1721; Alexander

Scriabio, composer, Moscow,

DEATHS: William Makepeace Thackeray, novelist, London, 1863; Leon Bakst, stage designer, 1924; Alban Berg, composer, Vienna, 1935. December 25 BIRTHS: Sir Isaac Newton, Matthew Arnold, poet and

Humphrey Bogart, actor, 1899. DEATHS: Karel Capek, dramatist, 1938; W.C. Fields, actor, 1946; Sir Charles (Charlie) Chaplia, 1977, The Pilgrim Fathers landed at physicist, Woolsthorpe, Lines, Plymouth Rock, Massachusetts, 1642; William Collins, poet,

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ber 21st 1990, peacefully after a long illness patiently borns. Penelope (née Wood-Hill), widow of Rev Cecil Cultingford and much loved member of the international cremation. A Thunksgiving Service will be held on /ednesday 30th January. 12.50pm at St.Micheel's Church, Beccies, No Rowers by Out Chalet World Guide Centre c/o Harvey Bros. Kirty-Cane, Bungay, Suffolk, it is hoped that a further service will be held in London at a later date. FRAME - On December 18th peacefully George T.D., of Ossbott, Surrey, in his 80th year, He was esteemed by the local community loved by his faurby his many wartime Special Forces. Political and Philan-

sand of Elizabeth and father

of Brenda, Margaret and

Joanna Family cremation

December 28th, Family Dow-

ers only. Memorial service in

be arranged. Enquaries and

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Pages James

Res Tilling amendation

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Church, Oxshott on Monday WANTED December 31st at 12.30 pm. Followed by cremation at Randal's Park, Leatherhead but donations if desired to Barnados, C/O James and Thomas Lid, Mill Road, Cob-

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CHRISTMAS

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going out this Christman to endoy themselves.

closed for the Christmas break

Willia to a severe book of last

ness Bertle Joel Will not be send-ing Ximas cards. He wishes a

TOLET AND NETT, Both lave you dearly and are thinking of

STEPSEN Kemp-King wishes his two transis a Happy Christmas

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IN THE HIGH COURT

OFJUSTICE

No 009870 of 1990

CHANCERY DIVISION

Re: The Companies Act 1985 NOTICE IS HERBY GIVEN that

the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 10 December 1990 confirming the reduction of the capital of the above-named Company from EA,600,003 to EA,100,000 and

the Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital as altered the several particu-

mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on 14

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF

ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVER FARR MACHINERY LIMITED

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Nature of business: OPERATION
OF A DEALERSHIP SELLING

VASTER SPREADING EQUIP

MENT, Trade Cleasification: 016.

ANTHONY MALCOLM DAVID BIRD and JOHN PARRY RICH-ARDS Joint Administrative Receivers to the David David

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olicitors to the Company

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Poole, Dornet BH15

1HZ, or phone

(0202) 671133.

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II SLANGENN PRIZE LONGONNINT RE

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE INSULVENCY ACT 1986

THE PRIME CORPORATION

GOTH IN ADMINISTRATIVE

RECENTERINE

COMPANY NUMBERS

pursuant to 9.48121 intolvency Act 1986 that a resource of the

cryditors of the above companies will be held at The Habrock herel, Wansford, Nr Peterbor.

Wigh PES 6JA on Friday & Janu-

in accordance with Rule 3 11(1)

of the biastvency Rules 1986, a creation small be excised to unter at

the morting only if
(a) Dotain of any debt claimed are submitted to the Receivers in writing no later that 12 noon on 3 January 1991 and noon on 3 January 1991 and

b) where the creditor campo

secured are not ontitled to allend

Claims and ornates should be sent

to the Joint Administrative Receivers at 66/87 High Holbern.

Dated: 20 December 1990

For and on behalf of Frede Holdings PLC The Prime Committee PLC C MORRIS & N G ATKENSON

John Administrative Receivers

Holbern, Lundon WCIV 60%

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986 TECHNICAL PUBLICATION & SUPPLIES LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY CIVEN

pursuant to Section 48 of the Implicancy Act 1986 that a Meet-

the appointment of a receiver, progress in the receiverable and

Copies of the Receiver's report

all creditors who ask the Receiver

1. A creditor will be entitled to

vote at the meeting only t

details of the amount claimed

have been lodged with me at Havelock Chambers, Queens Terrace, Southampton SO!

IBP no later than 12.00 noon

on the business day before the

day fixed for the meeting, and

the citem has been admitted in

Creditors may vote either in

person of by proxy and a form

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A proxy should be lodged with me, if possible before the

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THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

CRESTMAN LIMITED

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Havelock Chambers, Queens Terrace, Southampton SO1

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Queens Terrace, Southampi

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Administrative Receives

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NOTE:

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A R Familiave

Agrumstrauve Receiver

Touche Ross & Co., 55/67 High

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London WCIV 6DX

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the appointment of a receiver.

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Copies of the Receiver's report

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all creditors who ask the Enceiver

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December 1990

A R Fanchawe

TECEIVATE

NOUNCE IS HENERY CLASH

Please telephone the number listed below between 92m and 6pm Monday to Friday (late evening 7.30 pm on Thursday or between 9.30am and 1.00pm on Saturdays).

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DEC 24

ham, Surrey KT11 SAL.

This Christmas show, first performed at the Duke of York's theatre in 1904, has become an annual event. Many well-known actresses have been seen in the title role - and who in 1913 played the part of Slightly! — none but the Master himself, age 14.

> THE CULT OF "PETER PAN"

ANOTHER REVIVAL AT THE DUKE OF YORK'S. By J. M. BARRIE.

_Pauline Chase Peter Pan. . Godfrey Tearle Jas. Flook . Mr. Darling ... Basil Foster Nina Sevening Wendy Moire Angela Darling Mary

The worship of Peter Pan shows no sign of abstement, for all that the performances this year have shrunk to afternoons only. Among the most ardent devotees the cult has developed a ritual, of which two important acts are pelting the players, during or after the scenes, with twopenny bunches of flowers, and accompanying the orchestra by clapping the hands very fairly in time with the music. But the play is good enough to stand these and other rather silly demonstrations of faith, which do not much interfere with the enjoyment of the rest of the audience. Whether you are for the domestic or the free, for mothers or pirates, for Wendy or Peter, Peter Pan does not pail. It survives charges of cast and elaboration of "business", and has something that must eppeal to each according to his tastes and temperament. In this year's cast the presence of Mr. Godfrey Tearle as Hook is the principal novelty, and Mr. Tearle emphasizes the terrific side of the codfish captain with fine effect, while possibly this picturesque and humorous side will be developed in future performances. Miss Pauline Chase is still Peter, and Miss Mary Glynne is immortals ...

again the Wendy. With Mr Noel Coward as Slightly, and Miss Doris McIntyre, as first twins, the boys' parts are in good hands; and the homely and lovable pirate, Smee, is still personated by Mr. Georga Shelton. Yesterday afternoon's performance gave full evidence that children too young to have seen the play before and their elders who know it by heart alike welcome its

> DEC 24 1927 GAIETY THEATRE. "PETER PAN." By J. M. BARRIE

Peter Pan ... Jean Forbes-Robertson Capt. Hook William Luff Mr. Darting Frank Allanby . Marie Löhr Mrs. Darling... Wendy Moira Angela Darling .. Mary

We wish, when confronted by Miss Forbes-Robertson's Peter, that our memory entitled us to declare roundly that it is the best of all. But we must defer to older playgoers. Perhaps they remember a better. If so, their youth was indeed fortunate. It is enough for us that this Peter is full of fiery beauty, that he sparkles with vitality, that he gives a magic to Wendy's house that we have not known it to possess. The older playgoer may - or may not - have the advantage of us now; but certainly in days to come we shall get our own back. Twenty years hence some youngster will presume to enjoy himself at Peter Pun, and to praise the performance of an actress now in her cradle. Then we shall lean over to him and say: "Why, my dear boy, I saw Jean Forbes-Robertson in the part." If he is not crushed, it will be

the fault of his inexperience. Not the least interesting aspect of Miss Forbes-Robertson's performance is the effect it has on the play itself. Here is a Peter who is at the farthest possible remove from a principal boy in a pantomime, whose vitality is something altogether different from rollicking high spirits. who hovers most brilliantly between the joy and melancholy of the ANNOUNCEMENTS SFACIS

purposes mentioned in section 48(2) and 49 of the said Act.

the meeting only at:
(a) details in writing of the
amount claimed has been
lodged with the Joint Adminlitrative Receivers at Beclost
House, I Lambell Pelace
Road, London SE1 7EU, not

later than noon on Tuesday, January 8, 1991; and

any prosty which the creditor

intends to be used on his behalf his been lodged with the Joint Administrative

wholly secured are not entitled to

Joint Administrative Receiver

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF

ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVER

Registered number: 2052267. Nature of business: MANUFAC

TURE OF EQUIPMENT FOR

THE CONCRETE INDUSTRY.

Trade Classification: 07. Date of

Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: HILL SAMUEL BANK LIMITED, ANTHONY MALCOLM DAVID

MERD and JOHN PARRY RICH-ARDS Joint Administrative

ARDS Joint Administrative Receivers (office holder nos 1249 and 2480)

Addresses: TOUCHE ROSS & CO QUEEN ANNE HOUSE QUEEN SQUARE BRISTOL BS1 4JP and TOUCHE ROSS & CO CAROLINE HOUSE 56/57 HIGH HOLBORN LONDON WCLV 60X

MULTIBLOC LIMITED

Maggie E Mills

Creditors are entitled to vote at

vote at the meeting only if he has given to the Receivers, not inter than 12.00p.m. on the business day before the above day food for the meeting, details in details

consumny, and this claim has been duly admitted by the Receivers. A

creditor entitled to altered and vote of the above meeting may

appoint a proxy or prodes to affend and vote instead of him. A copy of the Report to Credi-tors is available from the above

address on written request.

Joint Administrative Receiver

NOTICE TO THE CREDITORS

OF AH TURNER TRAVEL LIMITED - IN LIQUIDATION

On 13 November 1990 the com-

pany was placed in creditors' vol-

untary Reusdation Richard James Rees of Price Waterbouse, Victoria House, 76 Million Stret,

Notingham has been appointed liquidator. This appointment was

confirmed at a meeting of credi-tors peld on 27 November 1990.

tar form. but creditors wishing to

requested to complete the form issued by the bouldator. The Houstoff reserves his right to require a creditor to surject his

Creditors of the company

of December 1990. M FISHMAN

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the creditors of the shove maned company was be held under the provisions of Section 48 of the implivency Act 1986 at the Chartered insurance

Institute, 20 Afternantury London EC2V 7HY on January 3

1991 at 11.3Gom for the purposes

Creators whose claims are

wholly secured are not entitled to

meeting should note the

in) Written statements of claims must be lodged with the administrative receiver by 12 moon on the day before the meeting at Ernol & Young, Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU.

(b) http://dx.en.for.upi at the meeting must else be indeed with the

ing mast also be lodged with th

In the High Court of Justice

The Impotvency Act 1986

I. EDWARD JOHN WACEY of
Buchler Philips & Co. 84 Grosvepor Street, London, W1X 9DF
was on 9 November appointed tiqutdator of Regres & Whatley

nistrative receiver.

G H Hughes
Joint Administrative Receiver
Date: December 18, 1990,

med in 648(2) and 649 of

All these are closely connected with Diabetes. As the leading

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A donation now or a legacy later with help those who have given their most precious gift after life itself. COMBATSTRESS! Ex-Services Mental Whiters Society Broadway House, The Broadway Witingladon SW19 TRL Test 281-549 6333

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY The Referent Dept Conferenty Security is the entry chanty expressivy concerned with statements of deat contains and their families. A provides neven and lefactures for payods, brackets, audiologists and others and supplies chalded hyproviding specialised expension, brackets are providing specialised expension. And they and necture grants, education and recruitment Provide mittel for an American Provi THE NATIONAL DEAF CHILDREN'S SOCIETY 45 Houted Raid, London W2 544

as Robin Young discovers when he tots up the bill for 12 days of devotion

he cost of true love has love-smitten this year that he presents the object of his tion. If anyone does deal adoration with all the gifts cat- in them, they do not alogued in "The Twelve Days of advertise. Christine Christmas" will be landed with a Wright of the National bill for £9,892.44: in 1980 it would Pigeon Association sughave cost him a mere £4,657.20.

The course of true love never cal solution would be runs smooth, and neither, for that matter, does the British economy. But as economic indicators go, this has to be one of the bumpiest. Of course, a shopping basket that includes 184 items of avian livestock purchased over a mere 12 days is scarcely representative. And this index is also particularly prone to wage-led inflation, since the services of milkmaids and musicians have always proved weighty in the account.

in the past it has been shown that even a few simple refinements can multiply the true lover's bill as much as eightfold. Sticking with as consistent an interpretation of the song as possible, though, the trend is undeniable. When The Times first did the sums, in 1973, the tally was £2,816.60, and since then its upward progress has suffered temporary checks only in 1975, 1977 and 1982.

For all the extra money, our beloved is going to be fobbed off with half-standard pear trees this £5 apiece. year. Hilliers of Winchester, our nurseryman, no longer quotes for full standard trees (with branches six feet up the stem). Halfstandards cost £16.95 each, whether they be Beurre Hardy, Conference, Comice, Packhams Triumph or Williams. In 1980 the trees cost £11.55.

Partridges are £5.20 each this year for red-legged, plucked and cleaned at Harrods. Grey-legged, the native birds, put the price up to £7. Alternatively, one could get live birds at similar prices from a game farm, or hire stuffed partridges from Gerrard Hire of London at £12 each plus VAT for seven days. But would today's true lovers be content with anything less than an oven-ready gift?

bird. Exhibition fantails, with smaller bodies and more respiendent fans, might treble the cost.

of the Faverolles fanciers' and beards, though, the birds are an irresistible attraction at £15 each. Bantams might save you

Four colly (or calling) birds we have always taken to be blackbirds. This is certainly not for convenience's sake, since the only man we knew who claimed to be licensed to deal in aviary-

many years ago. They will have to be stuffed, and Brian Taylor, the taxidermist for Pettits of Reedham in Norfolk, says we can have them at £25 each. They started still life, if I can put it that

Gold rings are £15.95 each from taken the view that since the lady



is getting quantity (five rings on eight days totals 40 rings) she can go without quality. In 1980 they would have cost £9 each.

cost was £4.50 and £7.50. Negotiations with the agricultural section of the Transport &

Rather than embarrass the inamorata with possibly unwanted waterfowl to watch over we have, since 1980, opted for the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust's "Guard a Goose" and "Sponsor a Swan" schemes. The guardian or sponsor gets news of individual birds' movements around the world at

footed geese and £20 for Bewick's or whooper swans. In 1980 the

> General Workers' Union have resulted in a week's pay claim of £140.41 each for the eight maids amilking. There are possible savings if we catch them young (under 21 their minimum is £126,37), unqualified (£122.10), or young and unqualified

(£104.36). The Musicians Union has come up with two In pursuit of trivial pleasure The Victorians knew how to have a good time - but then they didn't have television

Frembling

hands are

distasteful

parts of the

corpse

he game is not worth the candle, they say. This is a sententious old saying, origmally French, which I can trace back to 1550. I'm afraid it refers to gambling. The effort is not worth even the cost of the candle that lights the miserly Harpagon and his chums scrabbling with their cards. We have electric light these days. And we play no games. We watch television instead.

This is a pity at this time of year. These are the times that try men's souls. For the only time in the year, we are compelled to spend the idle evenings in close proximity with our nearest and dearest, and even remoter relations. The nights have seriously drawn in, so there is no escape into the garden or the park. The television schedules are even more rowdy and imbecile than they are for the rest of the year. It is considered unsociable to curl up with a good

book. And there is moral pressure to

new claims this year. One

is that the nine drummers

should be allowed £7

each per appearance for

"porterage", that is bring-ing their drums. Their

minimum session fee,

assuming that they are

performing at a private house, is £50 (compared with £24 in 1980). The

pipers are engaged at "casual orchestral" rates,

£61 per appearance for

the section leader and £51

about 11 ladies dancing,

since the Rambert Dance

Company, successor to

in a good cause, but we

traditionally allow them

to charge the maximum

expenses they can claim

for daily attendance.

That is now £26 (£11 in

1980), but if the bounders

tence, and if they need secretarial

assistance to get airborne the cost

Next year perhaps we should

take account of delivery charges,

but the price of true love seems

prohibitively close to a five-figure

jumps too, by another £27.

sum already.

There is a problem

for the rank and file.

Ballet Rambert, our cus-Our Victorian tomary source of supply, ancestors were betis economising at the ter equipped for moment and does not the long darkness really have that many. of the after-supper However, we have calsoul than we are. culated that, if it did, at In pariours where the company's average there was room, rates of pay the cost for they played the two days would total pianoforte, and £1,027.36. In 1980 we sang, and danced. had them at £176 a night. And, if there is Members of the House room, this is still of Lords have been known to leap for nothing

the best solution, provided that sitting-out, though wet, is allowed. For modern drawing-rooms there are hundreds of after-dinner games, many of them going back more than a hundred years. They were invented by the Victorians.

All party games can be divided into two sorts: the physical frolicking, and the mental torment. One of the oldest of the first sort is the Acting Game, still compulsory after dinner at Balmoral and Sandringham. The most irritating players of this are the nonanswerers, who are so busy acting out their petty mystery that they refuse to reply to the shouted questions of their team.

Up Jenkins is sedentary, but still physical, and liable to scratch the table. Under strict rules each side should have a captain, and anybody who obeys anybody other than the captain, by slamming her hands down on the table, or holding them up to do creepiecrawlies, loses her side that round. I guess that the appropriate coin these days is no longer a sovereign. but the new 5p piece. It is cheating to hide it in your knickers.

I used to enjoy Tutankhamun, in which blindfolded players are guided through imaginary corridors of the great pyramid, bumping their heads on the tunnel, and flustered by bats and scorpions, until they reach the central chamber in the middle of the room. Their trembling hands are then guided over distasteful parts of the mummified corpse of the great king, until at last they are plunged into his eye, a peeled grape, or half a chilled orange.

In "Jacob Where Art Thou?" otherwise known as Moriarty, two players lie prone on the floor, as far apart as possible but holding (left) hands, with rolled-up newspapers in their right hands. Jacob where art thou? Dodge, cringe, "bere". Thwack. If

you hit, you get another shot. Rabbits is silly. "I saw a ghost last night" is dangerguided over ous, unless the largest people are placed farthest away from the ringmaster. Sardines depends a bit on whom you get mummified stuck with behind

the curtain for hours. The point of these bouncing games from the days of strict chaperonage is proximity, and even holding hands, with the opposite sex. The mental torment games are just as old. Sense and Sensibility: "They met for playing at cards or consequences, or any other game that was sufficiently noisy." We still play consequences, in many forms of absurd juxtapositions of words and pictures. J. Caesar used the rebus game by putting an elephant on his coinage (in Punic, Caesar meant elephant - it was illegal to

coinage of the republic). Our modern Trivial Pursuit and Scrabble and the dictionary games are descended from a long line of Victorian after-dinner pastimes. They are a traditional way of passing the evening and better than slumping half asleep in front of the idiot box. They might even be fun.

put a living person's head on the

PHILIP HOWARD

The Times Prize Jumbo Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Eve had come, and Nicholas was expected (4,3,5,6,9)
- 15 Inspirational tale given revision (9) 16 Garland of flowers cut in part of Ireland
- 17 Author's endless tome, novel composed about king (9)
- 18 Guess I'm serving American in an eatery, initially (7)
- 19 Messenger finding porter outside station
- 20 Almost putting name forward (6)
- 21 Sign as a major shareholder (4) 23 Cloak fell (4)
- 24 Atmosphere there always is somewhat
- 25 Native of the highlands repelled by hero of Scott's novel (6)
- 26 Having beauty queen as cleaner (6) 29 Before close of play, county catches tailender in maiden (7)
- 30 Greek god on right of the temple (8) 31 Fixed unusually hard centre inside
- object (10) 33 An insect left in tree? Just the opposite
- 34 Refuse leading part in drama one of
- Rattigan's (5)
- 36 A short head (6) 37 Spartan hero caught by casual enemy in
- retreat (8)
- 40 Freedom to move in bays, perhaps, or calm sea areas (5,9)
- 42 Liszt on this instrument? Doesn't sound like it! (7,5)
- 45 They can pick you up wrongfully in Soviet arrest (12)
- 46 Characters like Ibsen's hero guarantee-
- ing good houses? (6.8) 48 Wanted when skiing, perhaps (2,3,3)
- 50 Little woman taking to the bottle gets merry (6) 51 Orchestra only getting half-way through
- chorus (5) 52 Even leader of guides can go astray in
- this desert (5) 55 Pursuing fellow from Lincoln, say, or
- East Anglian place (10) 57 County town needs to provide street, for
- a start (8) 59 One who's nomadic, i.e., bound to wander (7)
- 61 River sounding rather like Amazon (6)
- 62 Scattered the remnants initially in all directions (6)
- 63 'A new case not having a place for waiter
- 65 Maiden put in appearance for chieftain
- 68 Pipes relished by Scotsmen (4)
- 69 University in reduced circumstances -
- Oxford or Cambridge, perhaps (6) 70 Are they useless for outgoing types
- within the House? (7) 71 Fishing gear yielding spiny fish, none
- the less (4-3) 73 Militant supporter happy organizing a
- riot (9)
- 74 As author, 'e left his input in Genesis etc

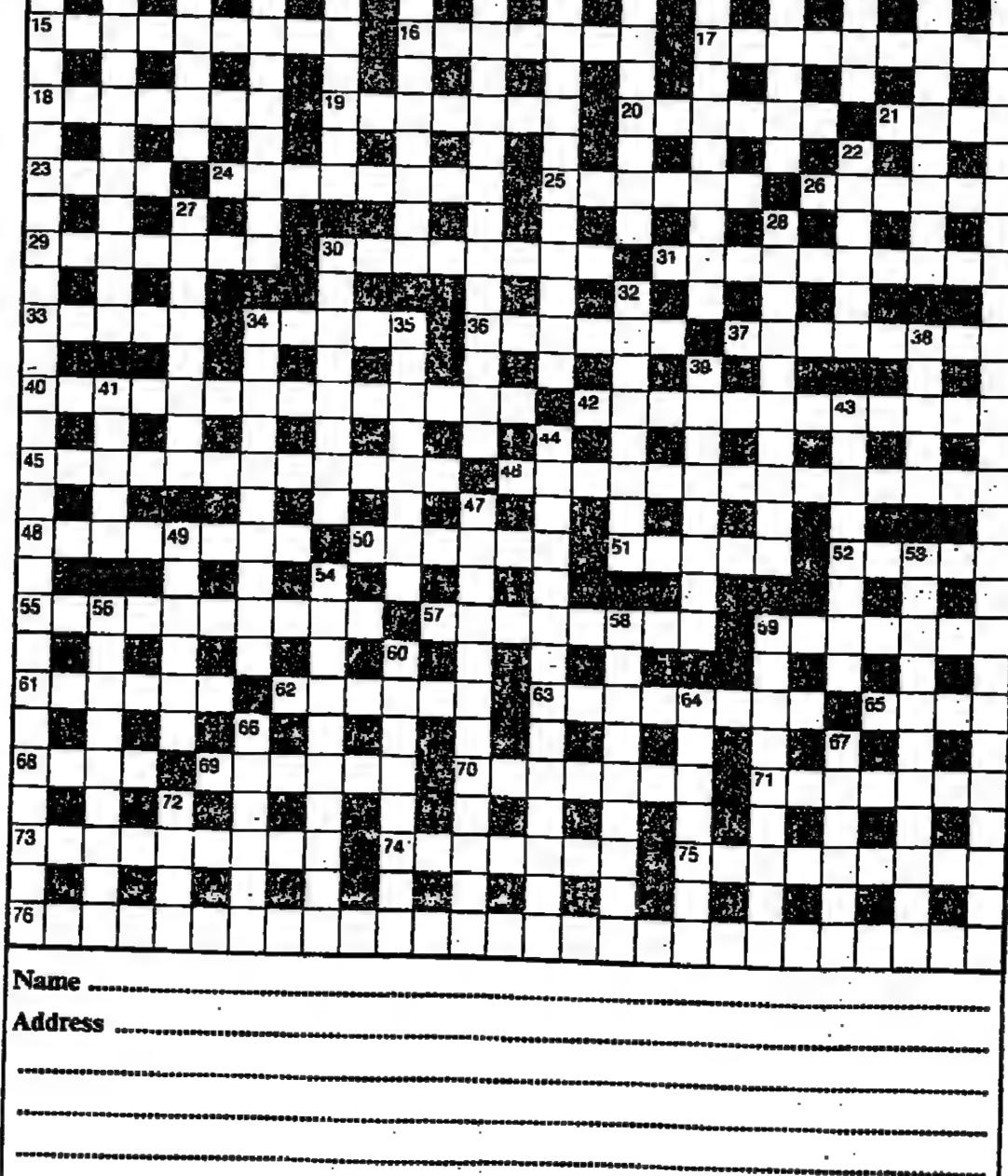
- 75 Extra page in customs document's come
- 76 Consultant's operations as recorded by his medical assistant (3,8,2,8,6)

DOWN

- 1 Saying one desires to propagate an idea
- rising (6)
- doubt (9)
- 5 One fails to appreciate where the fire
- 7 Main area dividing the English and Welsh (7,7)
- of body (6-4) 11 Artist supported by bank on few
- 12 Author lying about Wenceslas (4) 13 Dominant female sat, finally, in new
- armchair (9)
- 22 Fish from motorboat, mainly heading **East (6)**
- 27 Achieve no reforms without, say, an
- ing firm (10)
- man's responsibility (8)
- 34 Doctor gets a far from brilliant press as operator in theatre (10)
- 38 An opening for egoistical critic (5)
- 39 Ill-informed about king you said governed badly (8)
- 43 Ancient language swelling in poem (8)
- 44 He used his loaf to save time (4,2,8)
- 47 Mimicking it and harmonizing (7,2,3)
- 53 Getting our man dismissed, partly for excessive interest in food (11)
- 54 Game vehicle, look, making it here? (5,5)
- 59 Holder of vital liquid assets needed
- when cuts are severe (5,4)
- directions on top (8) 64 Dish is placed between king and
- emperor (7) 66 Patience, for one, is rewarded - by definition (6)
- play (6) 72 Expression of support for examination

Test your word power in our festive competition

Prizes of £50 will be given for the first five correct solutions opened on Monday January 7, 1991. Entries should be sent to The Times Christmas Jumbo Crossword Competition, The Times, Pennington Street, London, El 9XN. The winners and solution will be published on Saturday January 12.



SOLUTION TO NO 2365 (Last Saturday's Concise Crossword)

Concise Jumbo

There are no prizes for this crossword. The solution will appear on Boxing Day

- ACROSS 1 Seasonal Bing Crosby
- (2,8,2,1,5,9) 15 Legal distress (9) 16 Passage (7)
- 17 Close wicket
- player (9)
- 18 Give in (7) 19 Sri Lanka capital
- 20 Editorial ment (6)
- 21 Silly fool (4) 23 Actual (4)
- 24 Red-muzzled
- monkey (8) 25 Verse (6)
- 26 Furning (6,
- 29 Inflame (7) 30 Record (8)
- 31 Regretful (10) 33 Entertained drink (5)
- 34 Articulate (5) 36 Come of age (6)
- 37 Woodsman (8) 40 Letting go (14)
- 42 Belabouring (12) 45 Bubbly.
- cious (12) 46 Not compatible 48 Ironic (8)
- 50 Summary (6) 51 Weakling (5) 52 Old light shawl
- 55 Slumbering (4.6) 57 Chronicles (8)
- 59 Wide **Police** search (7) 61 Impecunious
- 62 Domain (6) 63 Boarding house
- keeper (8) 65 Alone (4) 68 Accompanying
- 69 Revoke (6) 70 Indications (7) 71 Black/white
- 73 Practice session
- 74 Indian bread (7) 75. Ding dong bell.
- pussy's - - (2,3,4) 76 Henry VIII's re-
- ligious houses Suppression (11,2,3,11)

- DOWN
 - revolutionary union movement (10,7,2,3,5)

1 "Wobblies"

- 2 Defilement (11) 3 Severe scolding
- 4 Rope on main spar (9)
- 5 Perceived (7) 6 Superimposed
- 7 Achievement
- 8 Cornucopia (4,2,6)9 Added up to (8)
- 10 Glass, marker (10)
- 11 Involuntary response (6) 12 Source (4)
- 13 Prize winner (9) 14 Negotiations to cut back nuclear
- weapons (9,4,9,5) 22 Bracelet (6) 27 Horticulture
- worker (8) viva- 28 Compensation to vicum's family
 - 30 Camper's bag (8) 32 Prior (8)
 - 34 US variety show 35 Mourned (8) 38 New UK savings
 - scheme (5) 39 Assurances (8) 41 Maximum term server (5)
 - 43 German housewife (8) 44 Brain x-ray (14)

7-11-5

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THE CTARKES

- 47 Fighting stick 49 Impenetrable (6) 53 Italian mercenary leaders (11)
- 54 Pasta strands 56 Lacerations (9) 58 Wanton destruc
 - tion (9) 59 Consecrates (9) 60 Camp water pot
 - 64 Female homosexual (7) 66 Bahamas capital
 - 67 Horse/riding training (6) 72 Saint's circle (4)

What price More than double what it was in 1980,

> Turtle doves have been more than doubled in the a problem since the 1981 past decade. Any swain so Wildlife Act extended their almost total protecgests the most economipairs of white garden fantails, at about £10 a

> > We have a new suggestion for three French hens, too, apart from the possibility of buying them dead at £1.69 a pound from Tesco. Sue Bruton of Codsall Wood, south Staffordshire, says that the prettiest of all bens is the Salmon Faverolles. Ms Bruton would say that, since she is the secretary club. With their salmonbrown backs, cream breasts, feathered legs

bred blackbirds stopped trading

way, as road fatalities. Ratners. Plainly this line of the song could involve limitless expense, but we have customarily

- (3,4,2,6,2,3,7)2 Six-footer relaxed in a Northern resort
- 3 Calamitous end to flight smoke seen 4 See part of Bible in cathedral, without a
- may be (7) 6 Viewer's call to consider providing time for masquerade (9)
- 8 King's tax-collector, a national hero (6,6) 9 Deliberate changes ruin team (8) 10 Get hold of wine, we hear, having a bit
- occasions (6)
- 14 Septet matched in musical production (5,6,3,5,8)
- intimate friend (5,3) 28 Area of visible growth for new publish-
- 30 Stop for strike imports I black (8) 32 Message from underworld one police-
- 35 Impertinent person to add zest to television (8)
- 41 Take a paper again the others are without one (5)
- 49 Draw out judge's conclusion in accordance with the law (6)
- 56 Manage to get through traffic (9) 58 Short hop terrifies some in unusual aircraft (9)
- 60 Political speech from yearbook, with
- 67 In card game, North ignored Michael in

ACROSS: 1 Bow 3 Wished 6 Hansa 8 Knead 9 Lets slip 10 Aspen 12 Ego 14 School 16 Pollen 18 Mat 20 Fusty 23 Obsolete 24 Vital 25 Sheba 26 Relish 27 Bus DOWN: 1 Bellows 2 White 3 Waking 4 Honestly 5 Deadeye 7 Nose 11 Football 12 Elm -13 Opt 15 Courier 17 Nemesis 19 Ambush 21 Jove 22 Kebab

inspired rhetorical flourishes,

has been built.

has grown.

blues nights.

Rory Gallagher.

modern rock marketplace.

the premier bluesman of the

Nineties, Robert Cray, who

opens at Sheffield City Hall on

annual Albert Hall marathon

(starting on February 5) which

this year incorporates six

watershed in the genre's rap-

idly growing return to some-

thing approaching mass-mar-

ket popularity. In terms of

record sales it was the biggest

The Healer, released in

November 1989, became the

biggest selling long-player in

his entire catalogue.

While there has always been

ser, said Czechosiovakia inely worried about the of a flood of Soviet and was working last to itself. But he educated pard winter and painful annot afferd to have s of thousands of Soviet camped on its territory. d the country might take a s italy's book of dealing ಚಿತ್ರಕ್ಷಣ ಕ್ಷಮ ಸರ್ವಜ್ಞಾಗಿ refugee company hould e Soviet Chart. But, he

ants

thousanta and and and and another another and another anot Walses manes Deace

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stuff behind them. As designed by Di Seymour, it persistently but distractingly

Three-chord wonders from the primal ooze n U2's customised ver-

sion of "All Along the David Sinclair reports that the 1990s Watchtower", Bono sang: "All I've got is a red have opened with the blues, rock music's guitar, three chords and the truth." It was one of his more

foundation, more popular than ever

a pithy articulation of the basic precepts on which the towering edifice of rock music sons Sing the Blues. More significantly, 1990 The three chords in quessaw renewed interest in the tion are of course the musical shadowy figure of Robert bone structure of the blues, Johnson, the single most inand all the gimmicky sham fluential blues singer of all and adroit modern marketing time, and certainly the most techniques in the world have mysterious. Born in Misyet to impinge on their curisissippi in 1911, Johnson was a dapper, itinerant musician, ously soulful magic. In bald sound of six metal strings with unnaturally long fingers who, it was widely believed mechanical terms the chords are the first (tonic), fourth are all derived in large part among his contemporaries, (sub-dominant) and fifth (dohad made a pact with the devil minant) of the scale; in a in order to acquire his unique broad emotional sense they are the primal ooze from singing and guitar playing skills. He died at the age of 27, which modern popular music apparently poisoned by a jealous husband.

Therefore, it may come as a Johnson's entire recorded surprise to discover the extent repertoire - 29 songs together to which the blues still holds with 12 alternate takes, 41 sway over the imagination of tracks in all - was assembled an audience assailed by the for the first time on CD and myriad of musical attractions cassette as The Complete Remaking their pitch in the cordings (CBS 46222). Its release last month coincided Unquestionably the biggest with publication of a remarconcert draws in the early kable essay, Searching for Roweeks of the New Year will be bert Johnson, by American authority Peter Guralnick (Secker & Warburg, £9.95).

According to Guralnick, January 18, and Eric Clapton's "Robert Johnson's music remains the touchstone against which the achievement of the blues is measured," and certainly his mordant yelp has had a lasting effect on acts a specialist market for the from Muddy Waters right blues, 1990 turned out to be a through to English R'n' B disciples such as Eric Clapton (who recorded "Crossroads" with Cream) and the Rolling Stones ("No Expectations" and "Stop Breakin' Down").

year for the blues since the However, comparing the Sixties. On the live circuit, crude technical quality, apnew acts such as Larry proximate phrasing and keen-McCray, a bullish refugee ing edge of desperation that from a Detroit car assembly distinguishes Johnson's recorline with a raging blues guitar dings with Robert Cray's technique and a deep soul spruce, articulate, sophisvoice, rubbed shoulders with ticated approach, you could be past masters John Mayall and forgiven for failing to recognise the two performers as The Mississippi-via-Detroit exponents of the same genre. bluesman John Lee Hooker, Where Johnson was a poor now 70 years old, played to Southern boy with a "Hellecstatic full houses at Lonhound on his Trail", Cray is don's Hammersmith Odeon. clearly a man of the credit card while his comeback album; era. Yet they share a feeling -"If it ain't a sad song it ain't the blues," Cray is fond of saying - and the fact that the blues can so effortlessly en-Heavy metal guitar hero compass such a diversity of Gary Moore recruited blues experience is one chie to its veterans Albert King and Allongevity.

bert Collins to lend anthentic-Another is its unrivalled ity to his album Still got the suitability as a medium for Blues. Selling nearly two milplayers of red (i.e. electric) lion copies, it has been the guitars. It is an old aphorism biggest but of his career. The that no jazz player, of any American television cartoon instrument, who cannot piay family, The Simpsons, called the blues can be considered a

ples" and B.B. King's "Outside Help", both sets would make a highly desirable addition to most record collections. The Blues Guitar Box is described in Orbiston Parva's their debut album The Simp- truly great musician. For rock fluent and informative sleeve notes as "a celebration of guitarists, the blues is simply some of the finest blues muthe truest voice of their insicians in the world, both the strument. The essence of the quick and the dead". blues is embedded in the basic Within this triple CD (quatechniques of rock guitar playdruple vinyl or cassette) packing, the bending of a particular age lies ample evidence of the string to hit a note, the hamconservative yet resilient namering on of certain notes to ture of the blues. There is, sad create a trill, indeed the very

> encompass the mellifluous from the blues players' art. No jump jazz of originators such wonder that, like a compass as T-Bone Walker and Clarsettling on magnetic north, ence "Gatemouth" Brown; even such mainstream perthe superlative techno-twidformers as Eric Clapton keep dling of Roy Buchanan; the coming back to the blues. studied English cool of several uch is the conclusion graduates from John Mayall's when listening to the Bluesbreakers including Claparray of blues muton, Peter Green and Mick sicians featured on two Taylor, and the post-Cray new compilations: The Ulmodernism of (relative) newtimate Blues Collection (Cascomers such as Joe Louis tle Communications, CTV Waiker and Anson Funder-CD 206, released December burgh and the Rockets. 27) and The Blues Guitar Box

played through an amplifier

The blues may be old (Sequel, TBB CD 47555). enough to claim its bus pass, Allowing for the duplication but it is far from done yet.



Man of influence: Robert Johnson (1911-1938), whose complete recordings have been released for the first time

Pretty vicious

THEATRE

The Beggar's Opera Royal Exchange, Manchester

WHO needs that johnny-

come-lately, Bertolt Brecht, and his Threepenny Opera when one can have Gay's lively prototype? True, the modern piece comes complete with the most stylishly sour music Kurt Weill ever wrote; but otherwise it adds little to the original except narrative confusion and the predictable inference that capitalism was responsible for the London mafioso, Peachum, and his army of pickpockets. Gay took a pretty grim view of the corrupt Walpole administration, but his cynicism was sweeping enough to embrace

human nature as well. For him, greed and treachery transcended gender, class and circumstance. Peachum, his gang, the highwayman Macheath and his fancy women, are all mimicking the politicians, the lawyers, the

society ladies and gentlemen, and the rest of their betters. As Gay's principal beggar says, "the lower sort of people have their vices as well as the Arabian Nights. rich, but they are punished for them." That is the opera's point, and it needs to be baited

with no Brechtian curare. The 18th-century version is contemporary enough.

That is presumably the view at the Royal Exchange, though it is not always evident from Gregory Hersov's production, which has less bite than Richard Eyre's revival at the National a few years ago. Paradoxically, one of the evening's strengths may explain some of its weaknesses. The production does more to feast

verges on the gorgeous. Up to a point, her 18thcentury orientalism is justified. After all, Peachum is better off than Fagin, and there is no reason why his haunts should look like locations for a low-budget, blackand-white television version

the eyes than feed the grey



Like a skinhead Godfather? Russell Dixon as Peachum

of Oliver Twist. But as it is, he sits like a pasha on his throne, Persian carpets and Turkish drapes around him, a bookah in the corner, gold and silver in the treasure chests cut into When the gentlemen of the

road appear, the effect is no less exotic. With their earrings and bangles, their striped robes and gaudy cloaks, they somehow manage to blend the buccaneer, the gypsy, the 18th-century rake, and the Old Testament hero.

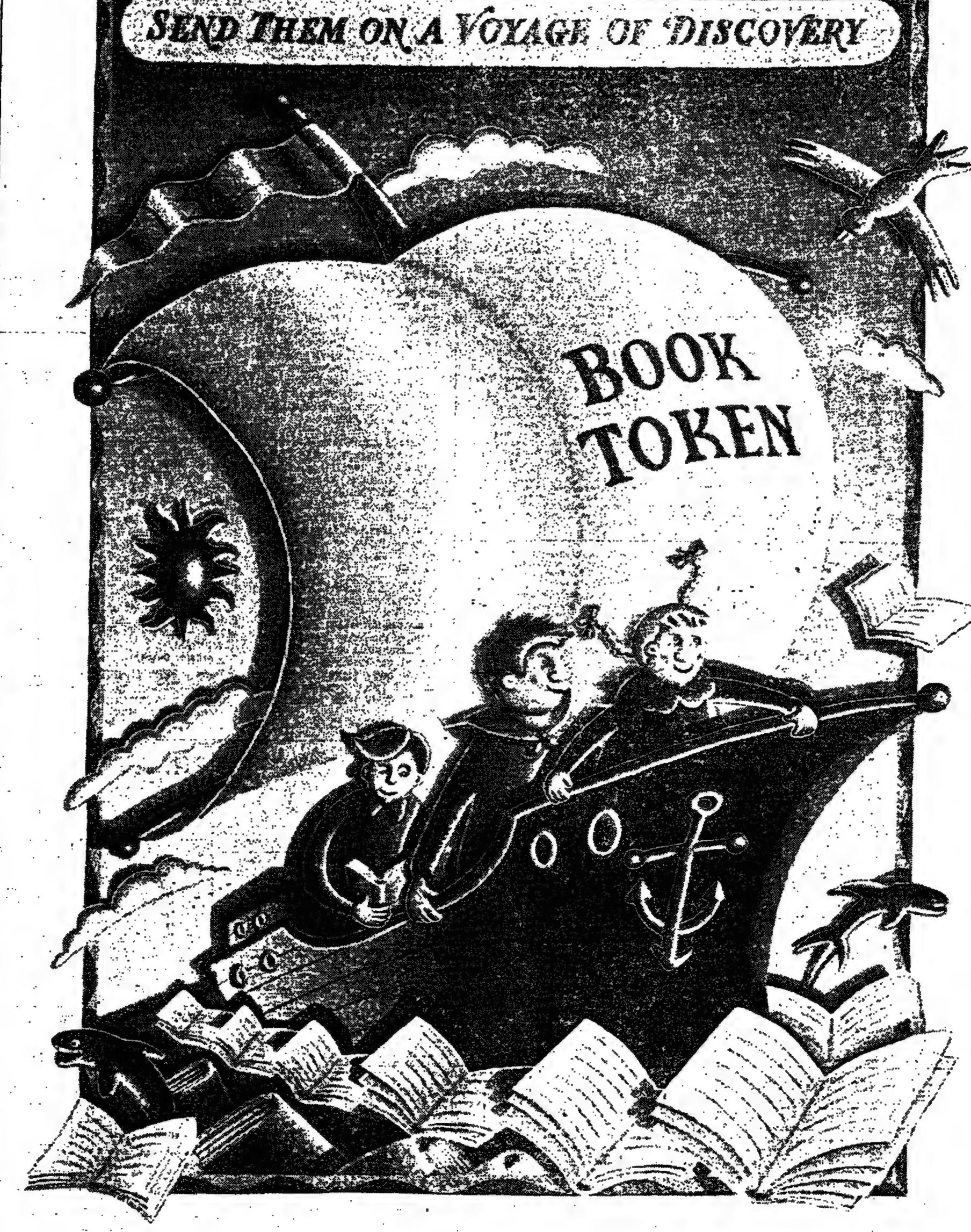
Some affect headgear beyond even Joseph in his Technicolor dreamcoat phase: turbans, feathers, and what look like mitres for Byzantine bishops. An androgynous croupier in red-and-blue silk might be a eunuch from the

That the production still retains some beef is due less to who has a certain pockmarked charisma but lacks menace, than to Russell Dixon's fine Peachum. With his bull's head, shaved scalp and mean temper, he resembles a skinhead Godfather, safer

The supporting performers are somewhat uneven, ranging as they do from Sarah Jane Morris as an aggressively pouting Lucy Lockit to Theresa Boden, rather too elfin a presence as Macheath's senior wife, Polly Peachum,

When she sings, Boden is apt to thrust her upper body nervously forward, as if bracing berself to dive off the top board. But then the songs, with their folk-tunes, are not the evening's main strength.

> BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE



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CURRENT

AN ANGEL AT MY TABLE (15): Jum Cantener's excellent tim about the New Zoeland writer Janet Frame. Florica: (671-837 8402). ◆ BLUE STEEL (18): Tough, bloodepertured police theliar with a lemmer sient

from chrector Kathrym Bigstow. Cannon Oxford Street (071-636 0310) Others Kentergron (071-802 6644/5) Mezzanne (071-830 6111). COME SEE THE PARADISE (15t Abril Parker's rememble chama about the American

treatment of the Japanese after Poeri Hurbor, handsomely mounted. Odeon Haymarket (071-839 7897). THE COMFORT OF STRANGERS (18): Puper Everett and Natasha Richardson

mooching around Venice, falling prey to the warned Christopher Walken, Labonous phychological charms, Curzon Mayteir (071-499 3737). DARKMAN (15): Liem Nesson as a

changured accentral seeigng revenge on the criminals responsible Homor extravegenza from director Sam Reims, entirened by songueif-Chiefs wit, visual flampopyance and kruches of certice. Plaza (071-497 9999). FLATUNEAS (15): Keder Sutherland.

Jule Roberts and Kevin Bacon as medical neward sensonuce and gridono zanabula death and the Director, Joel Schumecher. Cermona: Chelsea (071-352 5096) Sheftesbury Avenue (071-836 8881) Octoons: Kensington (071-602 6544) Mezzenine (071-930 61 11) Swiss Cottage (0426 914 096) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

◆ THE FRESHMAN (PG): Quirky, uneven spool of The Godfather, with Marton Brando as the mobater who heres a New York fam student (Metthew Broderick) as a delivery-D0y. Writer-director, Andrew Bergman. Odeone: Keneington (071-602 6644/5) Mezzanine (071-630 6111).

♦ GHOST (12): Jury Zucker's supervetural thiller. Bizzarre, incoherent, but streoming while it lests. Cannons: Balus Street (071-935 9772) Puthern Road (071-370 2638) Empire (071-497 9999) Whiteleys (071-792 3333/3324).

♠ GOODFELLAS (18): Martin Scoresse's gengeter epic following a New York hoodlum's rise and tall. With Robert De Neo. Carnton Futhern Road (071-370 2636) Question West End (071-439 4805) Screen on Baker Street (071-935 2772) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

D 80000ENDS: Disappointingly empty bule of two literary blokes. Nuchael Hordern and Dinectale Lancier by to find some content. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-437) 2663) Underground Piccadilly Mon-Fri, Spin, Set, 8.30pm, met Set, 5pm. Running time: 2hrs. Ends January 12. (Closed Dec 24, 25) THE BOYS NEXT DOOR: Ton Griffin's patronising view of the mentally #-edjusted. Fine acting, with Steve Guttenberg. Transfer from Hampstead.

Comedy Theatre, Panton Street, SW1 (071-887 1045). Underground. Piccadilly. Mon-Thurs, 6pm. Fri, Set. 8.30pm, mets, Fri, Set, 5.30pm Running time: 2hrs 10mms, Ends Saturday: (Closed Dec 25). THE COUNTRY WIFE: Appelingly heavy-

handed, old fashioned production, though Fenalls Fielding has her stylish moments. Memmand Puddle Dock, EC4 (071-410 0000) Underground Blackmars Mon-Fri 7 45pm. Set. 8pm, mets Thurs. 3pm. Set, 4pm Running time. 3hrs. (Closed Dec 24, 25, FIVE GUYS NAMED MOE: Mayvelous

jazzy re-ue packad with Louis Jordan numbers An evening of joy. Lync, Sheftesbury Avenue, Wt (071-437) 3586) Underground, Piccadely, Mon-Fit, Sprit. Set 6pm and 8 45pm Running time: 1hr

45mme. (Closed Dec 24, 25) GASLIGHT: Annie Castledine's superbly atmospheric production of Patrick Hamilton's thriter. Performances excellent, the plot

graphing. Greenwich, Croom's Hill, SE10 (081-858 7755) British Rail, Greenwich, Mon-Sat. 7 45cm, mats Wed-Fri. 3,30cm, Set. 2.30pm. Running time: 2hrs 50mms. (Closed) Dec 24, 25, Jan 1)

GASPING: John Gordon Sinclair and Jim Carter in Ben Elton's greenish comedy. Rether over the top but lots of laughs. Theore Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (071-930) 6800) Underground Proceedity Mon-Thurs. Born, Fri. Sat. 8.30cm, met Sat. Som. Running time 2hrs 30mms. Engs February 16,

(Closed 24, 25, Jan 1) HEDDEN LAUGHTER: Henrigh Gordon and Peter Bankworth in Simon Gray's thoughtprovolung Day. Vaucieville Strand, WC2 (071-836 9987). Underground, Chering Cross Mon-Fri, 7.45pm, Set 8.30pm mate Wed, 3pm, Sat. 5pm. Running itme. 2hrs 15mins (Closed Dec 24, 25) INTO THE WOODS: Sondhalm's witty mix of farysales, grammer than Gramm in the light had turns slowly theresiter. Phoenix, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-240 9861). Underground, Tottenham Court

JUST SO: Just a no-so munical on the Kipling tales: songs pleasant, costumes cheming, story oddiy pere.
Tricycle, 269 Kilburn High Road, ANG (071-329 1000). Underground: Kilburn. Mon-Sat.

Road Mon-Set, 7 30pm, mass Thurs. Set.

2.30pm: Running time: 2hra 50mms. (Closed

AUSTEN BROTHERS CIRCUS: The renowned circus returns to Betterses Park with its usual value-for-money show. Expect Mangahan contamonrata, the award-winning Konyots clowns and vanous sensi acts (no wild enemails in the rang) Hippodrome Terit, Bettersea Park, London SW11 (071-924 1111), 3pm. BREAD: Further edventures from the Boswell family as the popular TV srt-corn comes to the Langon stage for a kninge five-week season. All members of the show make an appearance except Jonathan Mome who plays Adhen Dominion, Tottennem Court Road, Landon WC1 (071-580 9562), 2.30pm.

Geoff Brown's assessment of films In London and (where indicated with the symbol (1) on release across the country. Note: Please check with cinemas for

changes in opening times during the Christmas week A HENERY AND JUNE (18) Amin No. Description after with Henry Aliker in bohemien

Paris recreated with a grandiose flow by director Philip Kaulman, Carmon Fulhern Road (071-370 2636) Empire (071-487 9689) Nothing His Coronee (071-72) 6705) Whitpleys (071-792

HOME ALONE (PG): Plucky kid him sions at Christmas wards off burroimo burglers. Broad, machine-looled American family fun trom writer-producer John Hughes. A big US hit.

Camden Perkway (071-267 7034) Cannona: Chelsae (071-352 5095) Haymarkst, (071-839 1527) Oxford Street (071-638 0310) Odeons: Kensingson (071-602 9644/5) Swiss Cottage (071-722 5905) Mezzamine (071-930 6111) Werner (071-439 0791) Mhiaeleya (071-792 3303/3324).

4 THE HOT SPOT (18): Fleging sexual fires and duplicity in a lazy Texas town, deliciousty evolved by director Dennie Hopper, Don Johnson as the differ who uncerths a homet's nest. Cannon Chalses (071-352 5096) Prince Chartes (071-437 8181).

THE ICICLE THIEF (PG): Greatly engaging correctly saturating itselfen neo-mailism and the screening of time on television. Written and directed by, and staming, Maurizio Nichetti — an Italian como hugely popular on his home turt. Metro (071-437 0757).

◆ THE LITTLE MERIMAID (U): Disney's much-fourted version of Heris Christian Ancieraen's fantesy. Odeons: Haymarion (071-939 7697) Kensington (071-602 6644/5) Swiss Codeon Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

METROPOLITAN (15): Whit Stemen's wickedly frome cornedy of menners set among New York's debutences and preppies over one Christmas holiday. Witty dielogus, engaging young actions, elegant directions.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of current theatre in London Note: There may be slight changes to performance times during the Christmas week. Please check with

Spm, mat Sat, 4pm. Running time: 2hra 30mina. Ends January 12. (Closed 24, 25,

THE MYSTERY OF IRMA VEP: Scool Gothic melodramia, ranging between the 🕒 farcically funny and the feebly frampo. Ambassadors, West Street, WC2 (071-836 6111). Underground: Leicester Square. Mon-Set, 8pm, mets Thurs, 3pm, Set, 4pm, Running time: 2hrs. Ends January 5. (Closed Dec 24, 25)

OUT OF ORDER: Doneld Sinder puffs,

Michael Williams canaca, in lighter Ray Cooney farce, over-plotted, under-Sheltesbury, Sheltesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5399) Underground Holbom Man-Fri. Born, Sat, 8.30pm, mads Wed, 2.30pm, Sat,

PRIVATE LIVES: Keith Buster, Joseph Collins and Sera Crows in Coward's comedy. Aktivych, Aktivych, WC2 (071-836 6404), Underground: Covern Geroen, Mon-Fri, 8pm, Set, 8.30pm, mess Wed, 3pm, Set, 5pm. Running time 2hrs 15mins. Ends January 26. (Closed Dec 24, 25)

4pm Running time. 21sts 30mms. (Closed Dec.

THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW: REJECULE and 440 bold and bizarre, sometimes Geerering rock musical. Proceedily Denman Street, W1 (071-867) 1118) Underground Piccadilly Circus, Mon-Thurs 9pm Fr., Sat, 7pm and 9 (5pm. Running time: 1hr 30mins. (Closed Dec 24, 25) SCENES FROM A MARRIAGE: Alen Howard and Penny Downie in Bergman's twohancer: casecpointingly stack after its transfer from Chichester Wyndhem's, Chenno Cross Road WC2 (071-867 1116) Underground Leicester Square Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs. 3pm, Sat, 40m Running time: 2hrs 20mins Ends January 25. (Closed Dec 24, 25, 26, 31,

SOPHIET: Eve Ferret gamely attempts the raunchy style of Sophie Tucker in a musical bio, subtitled "The Last of the Red Hot

TODAY'S EVENTS

comedian John Hegley, musical group The Popticiens, string-up Mark Thomas and minimalist magician Otz Cannelon. Red Rose Club, 129 Seven Scalers Road,

N7 (071-291 3051), 8-30pm. GEORGE MELLY: Besse Smith's English descandant continues his annual residency with John Chillon's Festwarmers Ronnet Scott's Club Foth Street, London W1 (071-438 0747), 8.30pm.

THE NUTCRACKER: Return typicals only for the matines performance of Peter Scheutuss a production for English hemoral Bellet Mana Teresa del Real has her

Carnon Chalesa (071-352 5086) Lumlére (071-CINEMA GUIDE 838 0891) Screen on the HM (071-435

THE NEVERENDING STORY PART 2 (U): A resum wan to the land of Fantsara. framely speciacular, but the plot is a jumere and an unakeapte child actor, Jonathan Brands, abody some of the fun. Cennons. Fulliam Road (071-370 2636) Oxford Street (071-636 0310) Warner (071-439 (1791) Whiteley's (071-792 3303/3324).

A PRESUMED INNOCENT (15th Alan J. Pareuty's riveting, incugnitul version of Scott Turnw's pestiseter, with Hamson Forti and Grate Scaccia. Cannona: Futhern Road (071-370 2536) Panton Street (071-230 0631) Tomerment Cours Rosd (071-636-6148) Warner (071-

THE SHELTERING SKY (18): A charge Visual sweep by Bernardo Bernalucci with John Malkowich and Debra Winger.

TEBUAGE WUTANT NINUA TURTLES for the new pop culture fact. Odeons: Kensington (071-602-6644/5)

THREE SISTERS (12): Chelchov updated to an trader university sown in the 1980s. Sparks ily from all three actresses (Fenny Ardent, Greta Scacchi, Valena Goling), vel the film stays at low geer, Director, Margarethe VON Trotte

account of Yugostav gypsy youngstern conscripted into an army of theves. Dazzling sel-pieces, but the disperted namative sace the film's emergy. Cemden Plaza (071-465 2443) Chelasa Cinema (071-351 3742).

rollictorig tale of psychotic evil and sawpli passion rampaging through America's rearriand the same ingredients as Blue Velvet, though the results are far more inconsequential. Starring Nicolas Cage, Laura Dem.

on Baker Street (071/935/2772). A WORLD WITHOUT PITY (15): Life and by young French director Enc Rochens. with diseming performences from Hippolyte Grandot and Miredia Perner. Renoir (071-837 8402).

box office.

5.30pm. Running time: 2hrs 15mms. (Closed

THE REHEARSAL: Inn McDlamnic's styleh production (costumes by Jesper Corvan) of Anguith's seduction play. Gamck, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-379 6107) Underground Leicester Square. Mon-Set. 7 45om, mars Tues, 3om, Sat.

439 0791) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

novel (by Paul Bowles) filmed with a waithing Oceon Laicester Square (071-930 6111).

(PG): Noisy, chamiless feature-length advert Sware Courage (0426 914 098) West End (071-830 5252/7615) Whateleys (071-792 3303/3324).

Premiero (071-439 4470). TIME OF THE GYPSIES (15): Noticy

◆ WILD AT HEART (18): David Lynch's

Cannon PiccadBy (071-437 3551) Screen loves of a Parsien tayabout; a promising debut

Mames", that seldom reaches red heat. New End Theatre, New End. NW3 (071-794 0022). Underground: Hampstead. Tues-Sun, 8pm, met Sun, 4.30pm Running time: 2hrs Extended to January 13. (Closed Dec 25,

THIRTYSOMEHOW/THE HANGOVER SHOW: Two Edinburgh successes in a cabaret double-biff, three women look back on an ucsome secret; Pete McCarthy jokes about Lyric Studio King Street, 446 (081-741 8701). Underground: Hammeramith, Thirtysomehow Mon-Sat, 7.45pm (met Jen 5, 4.30pm); Hangover Show: Mon-Sat, 9.15pm. Ends January 5. (Closed 24, 25, 26, 31,

THREE SISTERS: Tixee Redgraves in admirable if over-busy production. Vanesse and Lynn outstanding as the older diris. Queen's, Sheltesbury Avenue, W1 (071-734 1166) Underground Piccadilly Circus Mon-Set, 7 30pm. mate Wed, Set, 2.30pm. Running time 3hrs. (Closed Dec 24, 25)

TIME AND THE CONWAYS Joen Prowinghs and lots of other (Silvers in Priestley's outlish play set in 1919 (twice) and 1938. Old Vic, Waterioo Road SE1 (071-928) 7818) Underground, Weterloo Mon-Fri, 7 30pm Set, 7 45pm, mass Wed 2,30pm, Sat 4cm Running time 2hrs 35mine Ends February 16 (Closed Dec 24, 25) WHAT THE BUTLER SAW: Incast estaut and because junketing preserved in the

BEDIC of Jos Orton's wit. Not quite a top-

ctass production but wall worth sawing. Hempress. Avenue Road, NW3 (071-722) 9301). Underground Swies Cottage Mon-Set, 8pm, mer Sat, 4pm. Running time: 2hrs. Extended to Jenuary 16. (Closed Dec 24, 25) LONG RUNNERS: Abound Person Singular: Whitehall (071-867 1119) (Closed Dec 24, 25) . . . Aspects of Love: Prince of Wates (071-839 5972) (Closed Dec 24, 25) . . . Blood Brothers: Albery (071-867 1115) (Clased Dec 24, 25) . . . Buddy: Victoria Pateca (071-834 1317) (Closed Dec 24, 25) . . . Cats: New Landon (071-405 0072) (Closed Dec 24, 25) . . . Man of the Moment: Globe (071-437 3367) (Closed Dec 24, 25) . . . Me and My Girt: Adelphi (071-836 7611) (Closed Dec 24, 25) . . Les Marables: Palace (071-434 0909) (Closed Dec 24, 25) . . . Miss Salgon: Theatre Royal Drury Lane (Closed Dec 24 25) (071-636-8108) . . . The Mousetrap: St Martin's (071-836 1443) (Closed Dec The Phantom of the Opera: Her Majesty's (071-839 2244) (Closed Dec 24, 251 . . . Return to the Forbiadan Planet: Cambridge (071-379 5299) (Closed Dec. 24, 25) . . . Run For Your Wife: Duchese (071-836 8243) (Closed Dec 25) . . . Shirley Valentine: Duke of York's (071-836 5122) (Closed Dec 24, 25) . . , A Slice of

Saturday Hight: Ans (07) 836 2132) (Closed Dec 24, 25 Jan 1) . . . Startight Express: Apollo Victoria (071-826 8665) (Closed Dec 25) . . . The Woman in Black: Fortune (071-836 2238) (Closed Dec 25). debut as the Sugar Plum Fary, with Jose Manual Carreno stat the Cavalier. Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (071-828 8800), 2.30pm.

THE ENCHANTED TOYSHOP: An onginal musical play (not a pentomme) written especially for children between the ages of three and nine with a traditional storyline about a toyshop which comes to big. Fortune Theatre Posset Street, London WC2 (071-836 2238/6260), 2pm, 4pm. THE ROD, JANE AND FREDDY CHRISTMAS SHOW: Songs and akatches by the musical ino who present the popular Thames Television children a senes Rambow show for three- to rene-year-ords. Ampessedors Theatre West Street,

London WC2 (071-835-6111), 25m, 45m

TV film choice for Christmas

Geoff Brown selects

attractive offerings

on holiday television

Christmas Eve

From Soup to Nats (1928): Laurel and Hardy as inexperienced waiters, reducing a society dinner to chaos. Less individual than their very best shorts, though you can't go far wrong with slapstick gags about food and social finesse. With Anita Garvin as the hostess, battling against a moveable tiara and chasing a rogue cherry.

BBC 2, 10.15-10.35am. • Batman and Robin (1949): First instalment of the 15-part serial: mercifully far livelier than the 1943 adventure screened last year. With Robert Lowery; directed by serial specialist Spencer G. Bennet Daily over the holiday at the same time. Channel 4, 10.25-10.55am.

• La Traviata (1982): Zeffirelli's fast, furious and resplendent version of Verdi's opera, shot with bold colour filters and sets swamped in 19th-century clutter. Fiery performances from Teresa Stratas and Placido Domingo; and for once the impassioned music gets images to match. BBC 2, 3.15-5pm .



20th-century Fox: Michael J. appears on Boxing Day, 6.05pm

● A Passage to India (1984): David Lean copes well enough with the surface comedy of Forster's novel about the unsettling otherness of India; but the deeper levels defeat the director. Peggy Ashcroft is memorable; the Indian characters (Victor Bannerjee, Alec Guinness) verge towards caricature, and Maurice Jarre's hideous music seems to have straved from an airport lounge.

BBC 2, 6-8.40pm ● Blind Date (1987): Tired slapstick comedy from the uneasy period before Die Hard established Bruce Willis's big-screen persona: the Moonlighting star plays a financial analyst whose life unravels after a night with a blind date (Kim Basinger). The odd sight-gag pleases; much else dismays. Director, Blake Edwards. BBC 1, 9.50-11.25pm

 Rain Man (1988): A Hollywood stab at seriousness, though it's also a vehicle for two star turns from Tom Cruise (a callow young hustler) and Dustin Hoffman (the autistic brother whom he tries totrick out of a \$3 million inheritance). Director Barry Levinson keeps the flimsy storyline moving. BSB Movie Channel, 10pm-12.25am

This Is Spinal Tap (1983): Delicious parody of rock documentaries, charting the disastrous American tour of a veteran British band of the heavy metal persuasion. The satire could easily have fizzled out into repetitive caricature, but director Rob Reiner and his fellow actor-writers hit their targets with wicked pre-BBC 2, 11.25pm-12.45am.

Christmas Day

Small-screen terrestrial premiere: E.T., Christmas Day, 3.05pm

• E.T. (1982): The afternoon is planned for you: you pile into your dinner, you watch the Queen, then you watch the Extra-Terrestrial. yanking the heart-strings in Steven Spielberg's hugely successful tale of a lonesome boy and a lonesome alien. Simple material, superbly mounted. The first television showing anywhere in the world (though I cannot vouch for Outer Space).

BBC 1, 3.05-5pm Moouraker (1979): James Bond versus an urbane madman with the usual plans for global conquest. Routine Bondage, with Roger Moore scattering tired jokes amidst the chases and wildly flung scenery, Michael Lonsdale as the villainous billionaire Drax, and Bernard Lee making his last appearance as "M". Director, Lewis Gilbert.

ITV, 3.05-5.25pm. ● It's a Gift (1934): 44 years ago. W. C. Fields died on Christmas Day (an occasion he loathed), so he might have been tickled by Channel 4 filling out the afternoon with his most misanthropic comedy. No plot to speak of: just a chain of wonderful, acidic sketches of hen-pecked family life. With Kathleen Howard as Fields' termagant wife, Charles Sellon as the blind curmudgeon Mr Muckle. T. Roy Barnes as the smiling man who disturbs Fields' peace looking for Karl LaFong. A film to

Channel 4, 3.30-4.45pm • The "Adventures of Baron Munchansen (1988): Terry Gilliam's period fantasy, with John Neville as the legendary German baron who travels all over, from the moon to the underworld. A lavishly decorated curate's egg. BSB Movie Channel, 5.45-8pm

• The Snowman (1982): The popular animated version of Raymond Briggs's tale; makes you want to have flying dreams all over again. Director, Dianne

Jackson. Channel 4, 6-6.30pm

• Who Framed Roger Rabbit (1988): Fearsomely clever, initially hilarious, and a technical triumph, but to these old eyes the magic soon palls; the pell-mell pace becomes monotonous, and Roger Rabbit - the cartoon character who hires gumshoe Bob Hoskins to clear his name of murder – makes a shrill, unlikeable star. Sky Movies, 6-8pm

• Beverly Hills Cop II (1987): Mechanical sequel to the 1984 original, full of screeching tires, loud music, tired situations, and jabbering patter from Eddie Mur-

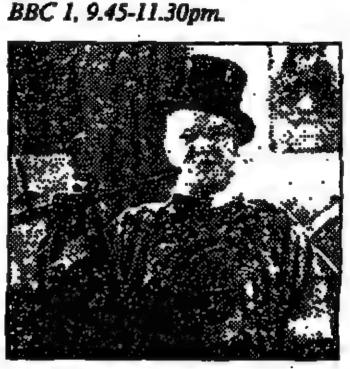
FIVE GLIYS

phy, lacking punch or wit. With Judge Reinhold; directed by Tony ITV, 8-10pm

• Good Morning, Vietnam (1987): The puffling story tells us nothing new about the Vietnam war, but the film is carried by Robin Williams' performance as the livewire airman shaking up the airwaves of the American Armed Forces radio.

Sky Movies, 8-10pm • Jean de Florette (1986): Gerard Departieu as the novice farmer in Provence, determined to make a success of his land, while Yves Montand and Daniel Auteuil engineer his failure. Absorbing, marvellously atmospheric version of Marcel Pagnol's novel; cinematic story-telling of a high order from director Claude Berri. BBC 2, 8.20-10.20pm

● Baby Boom (1987): Old-fashioned comedy on fashionable topics, with Diane Keaton as a power-hungry careerist whose life is thrown haywire by the arrival of an apple-checked baby. Cute and calculating, though the rosy glow of Christmas might help it pass



W.C. Fields: Boxing Day, 3.30pm ● Notorious (1946): Archetypal Hitchcock thriller, pitting a female counter-spy against a Nazi household with a cellar full of bottled uranium. Immaculate performances, particularly from Ingrid Bergman (perplexed and beautiful), and Claude Rains (such a purring, sympathetic villain).

BBC 2, 11.30pm-1.10am • Scandal (1988): The 1963 Profumo-Keeler business, exhumed in a spirit of muted outrage rather than muck-raking glee. Ian McKellen as politician Profumo: Joanna Whalley as good-time girl Keeler, best of all, John Hurt as the osteopath scapegoat Stephen Ward. A strange way to end Christmas Day. BSB Movie Channel, 12pm-2am

• Rouge (1988): Sleek blend of ghost story and romance from Hong Kong's Stanley Kwan. A fetching performance by Anita Mui as the prostitute who returns to earth 50 years after committing

suicide in a lovers' tryst; though the main pleasure lies in the heady recreation of opium-den decadence and the aching sense of love's transience. Channel 4, 12.15-2.05am.

235

Boxing Day

Return to Oz (1985): Not for the tinier tots, for this return visit favours a downbest, nightmare mood. Opening scenes of Dorothy escaping from her Kansas sanatorium are well-staged; after that the film succumbs to the specialeffects fidgets, and Fairuza Balk makes an annoyingly sullen heroine.

ITV, 12.30-2.30pm

• International House (1932): Seeing is supposed to be believing, though the saying breaks down with this crazy comedy mostly set in WuHu. China, where a doctor has perfected television. A strange bundle of performers fritter away the first half (Bela Lugosi, Burns and Allen, contemporary celebrity Peggy Hopkins Joyce). Then W.C. Fields takes the film by the scruff of its neck. Result: delirium. Channel 4. 3.30-4.50pm

 Bacon Grabbers (1929): Twenty minutes of simple joy, as Laurel and Hardy attempt to serve Edgar Kennedy with a summons. Blink towards the end, and you might miss Jean Harlow. BBC 2, 3.35-3.55pm

Back to the Feture (1985): The saga starts here, with Michael J. Fox being whisked back to 1955, where fashions - and his parents - were far different. The situations are ingenious, the time jokes fun; if only Spielberg's production team could resist the temptation to inflate the material beyond its natural limit.

BBC 1, 6.05-8pm A Cry in the Dark (1988): Meryl Streep with a blunt haircut and Aussie accent as Lindy Chamberlain, the mother in the "dingo baby" case, bizarrely convicted of murdering her own child. Handsome if shallow recreation, directed by Fred Schepisi; with Sam

BSB Movie Channel, 8-10.10pm

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• Dirty Dancing (1987): On holiday in the Catskills in the early Sixties, a spoiled teenage girl learns a few facts of life, along with dance movements that would not meet with Victor Sylvester's approval. A huge hit, particularly on video, securely targeted at teenagers. With Jennifer Grey, Patrick Swayze. ITV, 8-9.50pm

 Manon des Sources (1986): Or Jean de Florette Part 2 - less of a piece than the first instalment (Emmanuelle Béart, as Jean's daughter Manon, seems entirely too modern in looks), though the story concludes with satisfying dramatic irony. BBC 2, 8-9.50pm

• Requiem for Dominic (1990): Masterly, red-hot drama torn from the headlines of last year's revolt in Romania, filmed some weeks afterwards by adventurous director Robert Dornhelm (born in Timisoara). The film pursues his own attempt to clear the name of a childhood friend left to die as a traitor, covered in a net and tied to a hospital bed. Exciting television footage is expertly blended with recreated scenes; a powerful

Channel 4, 11pm-12.40am

• Suspicion (1942): Joan Fontaine as the jittery wife who may or may not have married a murderer. Minor Hitchcock with pleasing touches, like Cary Grant's staircase ascent, carrying an eerily blazing glass of milk. Try to ignore the enforced happy ending BBC 2, 11.35pm-1.10am

WORD-WATCHING Answers from page 18

RED ROSE CABARET: A fively bill

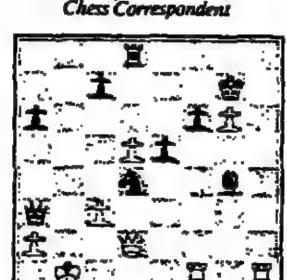
featuring the versage poet, musician and

PAWL (c) A catch engaging with the teeth of a ratchet wheel to prevent backward movement. from the Latin point a stake: "By the force of twenty strong arms, the windlass came slowly round, pawl after pawl."

SOLANO (b) A hot south-east wind in Spain, Latin solunus ventus the east wind, sol the sun: "Ask no grace in the solano," Spanish proverb. (c) A switch-ring, a ring for fastening a chain

to, a ring or loop through which driving reins pass, from the OF toret dim, of tor a round: "The greybound hath his collar, and thespaniel bath his terret." (c) Bow-legged, of a deviation from the longitudinal alignment of the body in which the distal part of the deformity turns away

from the midline, from the Latin raigns



from the game Mestel - Gufeld, Foreign & Colonial Hastings Premier 1966/87, How can Black put an end to the struggle? Solution on Wednesday. Solution to competition position (December 15): 1 Of6+, The winners are: D. Harrington,

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Mon-Fti 7 46pm. Thur self Spm.
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ALAM ATCHESTERS TIME ABSURD PERSON SINGULAR in CHATTENGE WAS AND MADE NOT. TO LAUGH OLT LOUD" TODAY EVER A Mate Thurs 5 Set at 4.30 EXTRA MAY DEC 25 AT 4.30 WYNEDWARDS UTI-007 1116 CC 071 867 1111/071 579 4444 (80 Dig fee) 071 497 9977/ 071 793 1000 (big fee) Even Born Mals. Thurs 3 Sel 4 IN SHOMAN BERGMAN'S SCENES FROM A MARRIAGE THELY TIMES PERFORMANCES OF A VERY MICH CHALITY - Dally Mall LIMITED HEASUN NO PERF 24-24, 30 DEC 28 & 21 DEC Spe Only CINEMAS FRAME 071 240 0300 PF 072 CURZON MAYPAIN CUITOR SE 379 4444 071 793 1000 ING REG C71 466 8966 Christopher walken, Rupert Cverett MINISTER SECTIONS OF STRANGERS (18) Proper at 2 00 (nut Sun) 4 10, 6,20, 8 40 NO PERFS TONT & TORRE CLUZON PROCNES PROFILE ST. off Charine Cross No 071 240 SOUL WICHAR DICKON ABOUT ARION S. Louis Malle , MILOU IN MAY (15) "Luide resonant, funny and deligniful" FT Proce of 2 00 ingl huni 6 10 6 20 1 40

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8.00 News, regional news and weather 8.15 Fireman Sam, Animated fun narrated by John Alderton (r) 8.35 St Nicholas and the Children. A fairy tale for Christmas. It is Christmas Eve and Pierre and Estelle are forced to go through the haunted forest to search for food for their sick grandmother. Sterring Heath Lamberts, Stuart Stone and Daccia Bloomfield (r) 9.00 News, regional news and weather 9.05 The Chipmunks, Cartoon

fun with the family of chipmunks 9.35 Charlie's Christmas Project. Chedren's drama. Chartie doesn't want an expensive Christmas present. He just wants to look after Artie the dog-Starring Seth Green (r) 9.55 Quick Draw McGaw. Cartoon 10.05 Playdays. Today's story is When the Dinosaurs Lived by Jonathan

Shelly (r) 10.25 Barney. Cartoon (r) 10.35 Film: The Slipper and the Rose (1976). The Cinderella story retold with music, lavish costumes and romantic sets. Despite the efforts of a charming cast the result is dull. With Richard Chamberlain, Gemma Craven and Dame Edith Evans. Directed by Bryan Forbes.

(Ceefax) 12.55 Regional news and weather 1.00 News with Andrew Harvey. Weather

1.15 Neighbours. Australian soap. (Ceefax) 1.40 Film: The Italian Job (1969). Crime caper starring Michael Caine as a newly-released jailbird who is chosen by an imprisoned "Mr Big" (Noel Coward) to lead a gold bulkon heist in Turin. The plan involves engulfing the city in one giant traffic jam and leads to memorable chases culminating in a bizarre ending. Directed by Peter Collinson. (Ceetax)

3.15 Children's BBC introduced by Andi Peters beginning with Burled Treasure. Cartoon adventure 3.25 Blue Peter. Festive edition featuring last-minute table decorations and a carol singing session with hundreds of children, a bress band and the BBC Chorus. Presented by Yvette Fielding, John

Leslie and Diane-Louise Jordan, (Ceetax) 3.50 Film: Masters of the Universe (1987) staming the incredible hunk Dolph Lundgren, with Frank Langella. Simple-minded sci-fi fantasy about a warrior who holds the tuture of the cosmos in his hands when he battles with the evil Skeletor to rescue a sorceress imprisoned on a distant planet. Directed by Gary Goddard. (Ceefax)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (Ceefax) 6.00 News with Andrew Harvey. Weather

6.15 Regional News Magazines 6.30 Wogan in Hoflywood. In wonderful downtown Burbank Terry is joined by comedian George Burns, at 94 probably the world's oldest living funny man

7.10 The Paul Daniels Magic Show. Colourful magic with an Edwardian flavour, featuring the Great Bosconi, puppeteer Peter Hartley, Chester Baker and the Amazing Sakura. (Ceetax)



Vets' farewell: Robert Hardy (left), Timothy, Davison (8.00pm)

8.00 All Creatures Great and Small: Brotherly Love. Enjoyable drama with the Yorkshire vets and their tetchy customers, making positively their last appearance for a special Christmas episode. Siegfried and Tristan fall out over the treatment of a wolfhound and Tristan joins the local beliringing team when he discovers that the attractive new school teacher is a campanologist. Starring Robert Hardy, Christopher Timothy and Peter Davison. (Ceetax)

9.30 News with John Humphrys. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather 9.50 Film: Blind Date (1987). (Ceefax) See Television Film Choice for Christmas on page 14

11.25 Christmas with the Gutf. Friends and relatives of those serving in the Gulf join their loved ones via satellite to celebrate Christmas.

12.25am Midnight Caller: Do You Believe in Miracles? Polished American drama about an ex-cop turned late-night radio show host who fights crime from his studio. A statue is stolen from a Roman Catholic church and when Killien appeals for its return he uncovers a violent family feud and a distinct lack of Christmas spirit. Stars Gary Cole as Jack Killian and Wendy Kilbourne as his boss Devon King. (Ceefax) 1.10 Weather.

8.00 News followed by English Towns. Alec Clifton-Taylor visits Saffron Walden in Essex (r). (Ceefax) 8.50 Film: Tarzan Escapes (1936, b/w). Johnny Weissmuller stars as the juncie man who tackles engry crocodiles, hostile warriors and a treacherous saferi party. With Maureen O'Sulivan as Jane.

Directed by Richard Thorpe 10.15 Laurel and Hardy in From Soup to Nuts (1928, b/w), See Television Film Choice for Christmas on page 14 10.35 Songs of Praise Christmas Special from the Old Town Source in Pracue, with Czechoslovak choirs and guesta Placido Domingo, Regna Cotrubas, Jeremy Irons and President Vacley Havel (r).

11.25 Golf 90. A look back at the past year in the world of golf with Peter 12.40am Film: Nickelodeon (1976). Comic nostalgia starring Ryan O'Neal, Burt Reynolds and Tatum O'Neal. A young lawyer finds himself drafted in to direct a movie in the early days of Hollywood. A hugely unsuccessful film which did little to help the flagging

reputation of the director Peter Boodanovich. 2.35 Beethoven Symphonies. Roger Nomington conducts the London Classical Players in a performance of Beethoven's Symphony No 2 in D. Op 36, written at a time when the composer was contemplating suicide

3.15 Film: La Traviata (1982). Verdi's romantic opera with James Levin conducting the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra and Chorus. (Italien with English subtitles). See Television Film Choice for Christmas on page 14

5.00 Carols from King's. The choir of King's College Cambridge sing a collection of carols. There are also readings from the Bible, Charles Dickens, George Herbert, Alfred Lord Tennyson and W.H. Auden (r). Wales: Jonah, a new musical written by William Mathies with words by Charles Causley, performed in Llandaff Cathedral by young dancers and musicians from south Wales conducted by Grant Liewellyn



An Occar-winning performance: Peggy Ashcroft (6.00pm)

6.00 Film: A Passage to India (1984) (Ceetex). See Television Film Choice for Christmas on page 14

8.40 The Making of The Triats of Life: Once More into the Termite Mound. Behind-the-scenes documentary about the creation of the spectacular wildlife series which has just finished its run on 880 lelevision. A cameraman describes his first underwater encounter with a killer whale, and David Attenborough tries to discover why people are happy to devote their lives to watching ants on manoeuvres or bands of lotter chimps. (Ceetax)

9.30 Madonna in Concert. Controversial but still perhaps the most popular female performer of her generation, Madonna is captured live in concert in Barcelona as part of her self-out 1990 Bland Ambition tour. Her wild costumes, made by top designer Jean-Paul Gaultier, and her extravagant and raunchy dance routines combined to make this her most exciting live work to date

10.55 The Fabulous Singlettes. A musical comedy written by Andrew Nickolds about three Australian girl singers who arrive in London's Earls Court on a cold, grey 1962 day in search of fame and fortune and, perhaps, romance. A talent contest gives them the chance of reaching the first rung of the entertainment ladder. Will they take it? Starring Alison Jiear, Naomi Eyers and Simone Dee 11.25 Film: This is Spinal Tap (1983). See Television Film Choice for Christmas on page 14

12.45am Brendel Plays Schubert. Alfred Brendel plays Schubert's Piano Sonata in A, at the Middle Temple Hall, London (r) 1.30 Weather

6.00 TV-am

9.25 Disney Cartoons. Cookie Camival, The Grasshopper and the Ant and Merbabies (r) 9.55 Scotland Today followed by Morning Call 10.00 The New Adventures of He-Man - The Movie. Feature-length advantures of the macho cartoon hero 11.45 Disney Cartoon 12.00 Christmas Eve with Dana. The trish singer calabrates Christmas Eve in an Austrian mountain village with a family called Aschauer 12.25 Home and Away 12.55 Scotland Today 1.00 News at One with John Suchet, Weather

1.20 Disney Cartoon. Old King Cole (1) 1.30 Film: A Very Brady Christmas (1988). A feature length reunion for the American soap lamily The Brady Bunch, starting Robert Reed and Florence Henderson, Directed by Peter Baldwin 3.15 News headfines 3.20 Scotland Today

3.25 Families. Soap set in Australia and the north of England 3.55 Rolf Meets Bugs and Friends in Hollywood. Rolf Harris travels to Tinseltown and meets Chuck Jones and Firz Freieng, creators of such cartoon characters as Tweety Pie and Bugs Bunny. There is also a sneak preview of Steven Spielberg's new carroon blockbuster Tiny Toons 5.10 Home and Away (r)

5.40 News with Nicholas Owen. Weather 6,00 Scotland Today 6.30 Take the High Road. Soap set in the Highlands

7.00 Wish You Were Here . . ? The anodyne holiday show. Judith Chairners celebrates Christmas in a famous old coaching inn in the Cotswolds, while John Carter talks about summer holidays in an underrated part of France on the coast by Cherbourg. Anneka Rice goes underwater, and takes a diving course off the island of Gozo.

7.30 Coronation Street, Wit and angst from Weatherfield. (Oracle) 8.00 Des O'Connor Tonight. Des is surrounded by stars, including Bob Monkhouse, Sir Robin Day, Susan Hampshire, Bananarama, Jethro end Bernie Clifton



Father and daughter?: Rossano Brazzi, Charle Lunghi (9.00pm)

9.00 The Ruth Rendell Mystery Movie: Put On By Cunning. CHOICE: Television was strangely slow to exploit the Chief Inspector Wexlord stones, but they have become the most satisfying form of small screen whodunit, far transcending the strained period pastiche of Marple and Poirot. The reasons include Rendell's ability to provide not only satisfying puzzles but believable characters rooted in the real world and the inspired casting of George Baker as the solid, gruff Wexford, who may be a plodder but is rarely looled. Tonight's feature-length story has Wexford investigating the death of a famous musician, played by veteran cinema heart-throb Rossano Brazzi. Drowning in his own take, he leaves behind a much younger hancée (Janet Maw) and a daughter (Cherie Lunghi) who may not be what she seems. With a well-turned script from the experienced Trevor Preston, the mystery builds racely, helped along by Beryl Reid as a dotty old aunt. (Oracle)

11.00 News with Trevor McDonald. (Oracle) Weather 11.15 After Henry. A Christmas edition of the gentle comedy starring Prunella Scales, Joan Sanderson and Janine Wood (r) 11.45 Midnight Mass celebrated by Father Dermot O'Gorman at St

Augustine's Roman Catholic Church in Deventry 12.40am Film: Somebody Killed Her Husband (1978) starring Farrah Fawcett-Majors and Jeff Bridges. Tepid drama, the first starring feature for the former Charlie's Angel, in which she plays a bored wife of an uninterested husband who falls for the charms of a toy salesman. Then her unloved husband is found dead. Directed by

Lamont Johnson 2.30 Film: The Electric Horseman (1979), Robert Redford barely succeeds in passing himself off as a drunken and desperate exrodeo star resigned to promoting breakfast cereals until he decides to kidney a 12 million dollar stallion. He is pursued by a television newscaster (Jane Fonda) who sees the makings of a story. Directed by Sydney Pollack

4.40 Film: A Christmas Carol (1985). Animated version of Dickens's classic, directed by Warwick Gilbert 5.55 ITN Morning News. Ends at 6.00

GRAMPIAN

As Scottish except: 6.00pm-6.30 North Tonight 12.40am Film: Grandview USA 2.30-4.40 Film: Sphinx

3.30 Twas the Night Before Christmas:

4.90 Scrooge (1951): A memorable adapta-

trom of Charles Dickens's classic tale in

which Afestair Sim stars as the moser who

6.00 Santa Claus - The Movie (1984): An

extravagent tensesy staming the diminutive

Dudley Magra as a diffusioned all who leaves

8.00 Buster (1998): Romanticised story

about the Great Train Robber Buster

10.00 Mad Max Beyond Thunderdome

(1985). The last of the Mad Mex trilogy, Max

(Mai Gibson), now a complete loner,

sunbathing dult and begins to trad a littler

4.00 Hawks (1988): Timothy Delton and

Anthony Edwards, both suffering from

terminal dinesses, decide to live their last

thrown out of Bartertown, a rough outpost

run by the ruthless Auntie Entity (Tina.

his job at Father Christmas's workshop

Edwards (Phil Collins)

he is their long-lost saviour

father is every on business

clays to the full. Ends at 5.50

discovers the true meaning of Christings

nati a town of mice on Christmas Eve

Animated story in which Sente refuses to

6.00 Bobby Jones Gospel (r) 6.30 The Art of Landscape 7.00 Thomas' Great Adventure (r) 8.25 Crosstalk. Current affairs controversial subjects are

discussed by a studio audieno12- to 16-year-olds 9.25 Christmas Eve on Sesame St(r) 10.25 Film: Batman and Robin (1949v). See Television Film Choice

for Christmas on page 14 10.55 Christmas Without Snow. R.Somes presents an analysis of Christmas using his own verse three unpublished poems 11.25 Blenheim Three-Day Internati. Highlights

12.30 A Family of Flowers. A documry about the orchid, the flower that boasts more than 30,000 cent species (r). (Teletext) 1.30 Nigel Kennedy Plays The Fouasons. This work by Vivaka is one of classical music's mostognised sets of pieces and benefits from the lively personand style of the young maestro who is accompanied by, andiducts, the English Chamber

Orchestra 2.30 Film: Camelot (1967). Overlongeen version of the Lerner and Loewe musical about the story ing Arthur and Guinevers. The film won Oscars for art directicostumes and music direction and it is handsomely photograd but the principals, Richard Harris and Vanessa Redgravel more convincingly than they sing. With Franco Nero. Directey Joshua Logan 5.45 Billy the Fish. Omnibus versof the cartoon character who

onginated in the popular adult-iour magazine Viz (r) 6.00 A Grand Day Out.

 CHOICE: A film by Nick Parloose plasticine figures featured in Channel 4's recent animativeason, gets its first television showing to complement suchtablished seasonal treats as Grange and The Snowman. Parityle does not have the delicacy of The Snowman, being more sand three-dimensional, and his narrative is not as neatly struct! But he shows plenty of visual invention in telling the simple of a man and his dog and an eventful trip to the moon in seant cheese. Much of the charm of the work, made while Park washe National Film School, lies in the juxtaposition of exotic anie everyday. The journey of a lifetime is undertaken in a hi-made space rocket cobbled together overnight from odds I ends and it is spent making toast, reading a newspaper anulding a house of cards.

6.30 Tonight with Jonathan Ross other off-beat show crammed with quests who include the ca Kiw cooks, Hudson and Halls, singer Kim Wilde and cornediatek Dee

7.00 News summary and weather fived by Monsignor Michael • CHOICE: The first in a Chrisis week series on "charismatic churchmen" profiles Monsigi Michael Buckley, a Roman Catholic priest who has dedica his life to healing the mentally and physically afflicted. Nick (i's film is based on a summer reekend in the Ocean Room Scarborough, where more than 1,000 people have gathered seek Mgr Buckley's help. His record is impressive and includeninging back to life a women who was apparently dead. A meal specialist is invited to refute this miracle but is unable to do. Less sensationally, the priest has relieved terminal cancer ams of the fear of death and helped bereaved spouses to ce to terms with their loss. Mgr Buckley courteously denies this is manipulating vulnerable people and pleads guilty to us showbusiness techniques, on the ground that Jesus also userem. (Teletext)



Faith in healing the sick: Monmor Michael Buckley (7.00pm)

8.00 Brookside. Suburban Liverpootap. (Teletext)

8.30 The Wonderful World of Dog An hilarious film by Austrelian director Mike Lewis, exploring pole's attitude towards dogs (r) 9.30 The Creation. Haydn's Creation second in popularity only to Handel's Messiah, and the conctor Christopher Hogwood has assembled an orchestra anothorus of a similar size and configuration as at the work's firsublic performance. Soloists are Emma Kirkby, Anthony Rolle Jason and Michael George, and the performance was arrang for television in Gioucester Cathedral

11.30 The Other Side of Gerry Sadritz. Offensive cornection Gerry Sadowitz continues his unpleast alternative guide to magic 11.45 Chinese Ghost Stories. Introded by Jonathan Ross. Film: Zu Warriors (1983). Tsui Hark's rentive action fantasy depicts

thrilling encounters between mals, the gods and the forces of good and evil in the mythical las of Zu. Directed by Tsui Hark 1.40am Birthday. Judi Dench reads selection of poetry by a retired Lakeland priest, the Rev Alan Elestone (r). Ends at 2.00

ANGLIA

As London except: 6.25pm-7.00 Anglia News 2.30am-4.40 Film: Never Give An Inch BORDER As London except: 5.10pm-5,40 Home and Away 6.00 Take the High Road 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters 2.30em-4,40 Film: Sphinx

CENTRAL As London except: 6.25pm-7.00 Central News 2.30am-4.40 Film. Deedlall

As London except: 5.10pm-5.40 Home and Away 8.00 Channel Report 6.30-7.00 A Country Ways Chostmas GRANADA

As London except: 6,30pm-7.00 Granada Tonight 2.30am-4.40 Film: Sphinx HTV WEST

As London except: 5.10pm-5.40 Home and Away 6.00 Wales of Six 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters 2.30am-4.40 Film: Modesty Blasse HTV WALES As HTV West except: 6.00pm-6.30 Wales

SCOTTISH As London except: 5.10pm-5.40 Home and

6.55am Weather and News

Mendelssohn (Incidental

7.35 Morning Concert (cont): Cole

Shakespeare, Kiss Me Kate),

Suffivan (Incidental music, The

Porter (Brush Up Your

Jacques Offenbach

9.35 Morning Sequence: Fontana

violins, John Toll,

(Sonata undecima: John

harpsichord/organ, Nigel North, theorbo/archlute):

Infante (Danses andalouses:

Peter Noke and Helen Krizos,

two pianos); Castello (Sonata

seconda John Holloway, John

Toll). Dvořák (Piano Quartet in

duodecima: Holloway, Manze, North, Toll); Bach (Trio Sonata

Manze, North); Françaix (Huit

danses exotiques: Peter Noke,

Helen Krizos); Merula (Ciacona

in C: Holloway, Manze, North,

Toti): Lutosławski (Vanations

Pekka Salonen, with Richard

Schubert (Symphony No 5 th Billat, D 485); Stravinsky

Concerto No 19 in F, K 459)

and Trinny Boys' Choir under

English Christmas music from

St John's, Smith Square, John

Harry Christophers perform

Goode, piano, performs

(Apollo); Mozari (Piano

1.05 A Boy is Born: The Sixteen

Sheppard (A solis ortus

Plainsong), Tallis (Glona,

Missa, Puer natus), Richard

Britten (Hymn to the Virgin):

Britten (A Boy Was Born), incl

Pygott (Outd petrs, O fili?);

cardine; Puer natus,

1.00pm News

Noke. Helen Knzos)

11.30 Stockholm CO under Ess-

on a Theme of Paganini: Peter

in C, BWV 529. Christopher

Herrick, organ); Uccellini

(Violin Sonata, Op 4 No 5:

E flat, Op 87: Villiers Plano

Quartet), Castello (Sonata

(Harmonies du soir, Op 68;

Les Larmes du Jacqueime; La

Vie parisienne, Acts 3 and 4)

Hollowey and Andrew Manze,

music, A Midsummer Night's

7.00 Morning Concert:

Away 6.00 Scotland Today 5.30-7.00 Take the High Road 12.40em-2.30 Film: Somebody Killed Her Hustomo As London except: 3.25pm-3.55 Home and Away 5.10-5.40 Families 6.00 TSW Today 8.20-7.00 Blockbusters 2.30am-4.40 Film:

As London except: 5.10pm-5.40 Home and Away 6,00 Coast to Coast 6,30-7.00 A Country Ways Christmas TYNE TEES

As London except 5,10pm-5,40 Home and Away 6.00 Northern Life 6.30-7.00 Blockhusters 2.30am-4.40 Film: Schinx ULSTER As London except: 5.16pm-5.40 Home and

Away 6.00 Stx Tonight 6.30-7.00 Blockbustera 2.30am-4.40 Film: Sphinx YORKSHIRE As Landon except: 5.10pm-5.40 Horse and Away 6.00 Calendar 6.30-7.00 Blockbust-

Starts: 6.00am Early Morning 9.25 Christmas Eve on Sesame Street 10.25 The Adventures of Batman and Robin 10.55

Marmaid 12:10 Pobal Y Own 12:30 Slot Malthrin 12.45 Ster of Bathlichem 1.05 Christman et Suscross 2.05 Meses Por oseini 4.30 Stat 23 5.20 Brookside 6.50 The Singing Cowboy 6.00 Newyddion 6.15 Heno 7.00 Dines 7.30 Sgryffi 8.35 Chwedl Nedolig Richard Burton 9.35 Nabucco 11.40 Hedd I'R Byd 12.25 Diwadd

ing Harmony 8,10 Film: Ghostbusters 10,00 News 10.15 A Month of Sundays 11.55 Midnight Mass 1,00 News 1,05 Closs

Living with Dinosaura 11-55 The Little Quartet 12.15em Close.

5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing; Weather 6.10

talks to P.D. James (r)

Tree. The first of three

9.05 Merry Christmas Children

children's request

10.00 News; Money Box (r)

10.30 Morning Story: Changing

Read by Douglas Hodge

six-part dramatisation of

Thomas Hardy's classic tale.

7.00 Today, incl 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 6.55, 7.55 Weather

8.35 The Week on 4 8.43

William: Part 1: The Christmas

sessonal Just William stories

by Martin Jarvis 8.57 Weather

Everywhere: Jeremy Nicholas

with a seesonal catabration of

by Richmal Crompton. Read

Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day (s) 6.30 News; Writers

Revealed: Rosemary Hartill

(s) Stereo on FM



Sir Robin Day (ITV, 8.00pm)

to deny that there is a touch

of the mireculous about the

SKY ONE Via the Astra and Marco Polo sateRtas. 6.00am The DJ Kat Show 6.40 Playabout, tollowed by Mrs Pepperpot 9.10 Jackpol 9.30 Here's Lucy 10.00 It's Your Round 10.80 The Young Doctors 11.00 The Bold and the Beautiful 12.00 The Young and the Restless 12.30pm Sale of the Century 1.00 True Confessions 1.30 Another World 2.15 Loving 2.45 With of the Week 3.15 Bewitched 3.45 The DJ Kat Show, encl to Abrona Horo Turties 5.00 Lost in Space 6,00 Family Ties 6,30 Sale of the Century 7.00 Love at First Sight 7.30 ALF 8.30 Film: My Feir Lady. Stammy Audrey Hapburn and Rex Harrison 11,45 Fentasy SKY NEWS

 Via the Astra satslife. Nava on the hour. 6.00am Sunnes 5.30 Beyond 2000 9.00 Dayline 9.30 Navaline 10.30 Beyond 2000 11,30 Review '90 — Home News 1.30pm NBC Today, Part One 2-30 NBC Today, Part Two 3.30 Review '90 - Home News 4.30 Beyond 2000 5.00 Live at Five 6.30 Newstine 7.30 International Business Report 8.30 Review '90 - Home News 10.30 Newstine 11.30 NBC Nightly News 12.30em Newstine 1.30 NBC Nightly News 2.30 Review 90 — The Gulf 3.30 Meditel 4.30

SKY NEWS Via the Marco Poio satellite.

Name on the hour. 8.00am Suntse 6.80 Beyond 2000 9.00 Dayline 9.30 Newsline 10.30 Beyond 2000 11.30 Review 90 - Home News 1.30pm Botshol in the Park 3.30 Brahms Volkskinder 4.30 Carola for Christman 6.30 Grosso Fugue 7.30 Sutherland/Home Gala Concert 10.30 The Love of Three Oranges 12.30am Newsline 1.30 NBC Nightly News 2.30 Review 90 — The Gull 3.30 Mediat 4.30

sky movies Via the Astra settilite

6,00em Showcase 8.00 Moonweller (1986): Michael Jackson's tentesy-inspired tour of his world 10.00 Carry On Loving (1970): Comedy from the Carry On team, set at a phoney maurade convengud caupa 11.45 N's e Wonderful Life (1946): Sentimental classic starring James Slewart who, when his business collegees, attempts sucide and is saved by his guardian angel

2.00pm Tintin: The Calculus Case: Cartoon

EUROSPORT Vie the Astre satellite. 5.00am International Business Report 5.30 Those Were the Days 6.00 As Sky One 7.30 Baseball 8.30 Eurobica 9.00 Basketball 10.00 Cycling: Str-Day Race 11.00 Suring 12.00 Eurobica 12.30pm 1990 Tennis Classics: Goran Ivanesvic v Henri Leconte 3.30 1990 Terwin Chatter: Steff Graf v Conchite Martinez 4.30 Footbalt: 1990 World Cup Classic, Semi-final between England

SCREENSPORT e Vis the Astre selecto. 7.00am Powersports 8.00 Horserscing 9.00 Salling: World Championship Matchplay 10.00 Centenery Rugby 12.00 Ice Hockey 2.00pm "Go" Dutch Motor Sports 3.00 Pro Ski Tour 4.00 The Rollmana Camerary Snooker Chellenge 6.00 Review of 1990 Indiv Cart 7.00 Tenoin Bowling 7.30 World Superbike Championships 8.00 Sound from the Forum 9.30 Review of the World Rally Chempionahips 10.30 World Cup Skating

and West Germany 6.30 Eurosport News

7.00 Big Wheets 8.00 Ice Hockey 9.00 US

College Football 10.00 Three-Cushion Bit-

flerds 11.00 - Euroeport News 11.30

The Breektest Show 10.00 Semon Bates
12.30pm Newsbeat 12.45 Alternoon Snow FM Stereo and MW. 5.00em Gary King 7.30 Special 4.00 Jenny Costello 5.30 News '90' The Beat Goes on 8.00 Jenny Costello 7.30 The Christmas Concerts; The International Tribute to Nelson Mandels 9.30 They Don't Make Christmas Records Like They Used To 11,20-2,00am Adrien Juste: Christmas Eve Party

FM Stereo. 4.00em Steve Medden 6.00 Ken Bruce 8.00-11.00pm Happy Christmes from Rectio 2: Derek Jameson 8.30 Giorni Hunnituro 9.00 Jimmy Young 9.30 Anne Robinson 10.00 Desmond Camington 10.30 Brian Matthew 11.00 Judith Chaimers 11.30 John Dunn 12.00 Alan Dell 12.30pm Chris Stuert 1.00 Roy Hardd 1.30 Gerald Harper 2.00 Katle Boyle 2.30 Charles Chester 3.00 Rome Hilton 3.30 Claire Rayner 4.00 Wally Whyton 4.80 David Jacobs 5.00 Angels Reppon 5.30 Jim Lloyd 6.00 Alan Titchmarsh 6.30 Shendan Morley 7.00 Sheks Tracy 7.30 Steve Race 8.00 Nigel Ogden 8.30 Peter Clayton 9.00 Vivien Stuart 9.30 Benny Green 10.00 Richard Baker 10.30 Don. MacLean 11.00 Carols from the Chapter House 12.00 Roger Royle 1.00-4.00am Bit Rennets

8.00em World Service 6.30 Marring Edition 9.00 Take Five 10.25 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 10.40 Trie Family Business, incl 11.00 Sport 12.00 News; Sport 12.30pm Christmas Chais: Ghost stones 1.00 Sport 1.85 it's That Time of the Year Agein . . . (r) 2.00 Sport 2.05 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 (r) 2.30 World Service, incl 3.00, 4.00 Sport 4.35 Five Aside 7.20 What's Wrong With Civilizathur? William's Christmas Present, by Richmal Crompton 7.35 Sente: Tony Stattery visits Lapland 8.05 Thunderbride 8.30 Cult Heroes 9.00 Negatibest 9.30 The Mix, Incl 10.00, 11.00 Sport 11.08 World Service 11.58-12.05em Sport

All times in GAIT 5.00em Morgenmagazin 5.35
News in German; Headines in English and
French 5.47 Press Review 5.52 The Week Ahead 5.56 Weather and Trivel News 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 Londres Mean 7.00 News 7.09 24 Hours 7.30 Bury my Heart at Wounded Knee 8.00 News 8.09 Words of Farth 8.15 Health Matters 8.30 Tim Rice's Consumes Past 9.00 News 9.09 Review of the British Press 9.15 They Made Our World 9.30 Financial News Live 9.35 Sports Roungup 9.45 Andy Kershew 9 World of Music 10.01 Dismonds Are a Gri's Best Friend 10.30 Viritage Chart Show 11.00 News 11,09 News About British 11.15 Health Matters 11,30 Med Magazine 12.00 Newsreel 12.15pm Hoex 12.45 Sports Floundup 1.00 News 1.01 24 Hours 1.30 Andy Karahaw's World of Music 1.45 Personal View 2.00 News 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Oil the Shalf 2.45 They Made Our World 2.65 Book Choice 3.02 Featival of Nine Lessons and Carola 4.30 News in German; German Features 5.00 News 5.09 Looking Homewards 5.15 The World Today 5.30 Londres Sor 6.15 BBC English 6.30 News in German 7.54 News in German 8.00 News 6.09 The World Today 8.25 Words of Faith 8.30 The Vintage Chart Show 9.00 News; Sports Floundup 9.15 Europe's World 9.30 The Christmas Experience 10.00 Newshour 11.00 News 11.05 Looking Homewards 11.10 Financial News 11.15 Poems by Post 11.30 Multimack 1 12.00 Newsdesk 12.80am Feetvel of Nine Lessons and Cards 2.00 News 2.09 Words of Feith 2.15 Network UK 2.30 The Christmas Experience 3.00 News 3.09 News About Britain 3.15 The World Today 3.30 John Peel 4.00 Newscreek 4.30 The World Today 4.45 News in German

COMPILED BY PETER DEAR AND GILLIAN MAXEY TV CHOICE PETER WAYMARK/RADIO CHOICE PETER DAVALLE

 Via the Astra catellits. 6.00em Twenty-four hours of rock and pop

LIFESTYLE Via the Astra satellite. 10.00am Everyday Workout 10.30 Search for Tomorrow 10.55 Cottee Breek 11.00 Telemen 11.35 The Eage of Night 12.00 Sally Jessy Rephael 12.50pm What's Cooking 1.00 Great American Gemeshows 2.10 Divorce Court 2.30 Retterty & Rules 3.30 h's Your Litestyle 3.40 Video Tours 4.05 Great American Gameshows 5.20 Tea Break 5.30 WKRP in Cincinnati 6.00 The Sell-a-Vasion Shopping Channel 8.00 JSTV 10.00 The Self-Vision Shopping Channel

Turner). He finds himself in a strange 12.00 Saleline Juledon community of lost children, who believe that 11.45 Sudden Impact (1983): The fourth THE MOVIE CHANNEL Dirty Harry film, and Clint Eastwood has Doen seni on vacation to pool off sitter a a Visi the Marco Polo satellite controversal case. However, he finds 10.45am China Beach (1988): Emotional drama focusing on three very different 1.45am Seven Minutes in Heaven (1985): women stationed in Vietnem during the war Comedy, in which a runaway feenager 12.35pm The Movie Show (Bryon Thomas) is invited by a female friend 1.05 IGSSin' Cousins (1964): Elvis Presley (Jennifer Connelly) to live with her while her stars in this musical comady as an air force

officer and his hillbally double

TH SPORTS CHANNEL the Marco Polo setellity. 1.2m Sportsdest 1.30 I Was Thers. The Glejow Rengers 1989-90 season 3.30 Rugy League 5.00 Tutt Track 8.00 Spradeel 6.30 American Wresting 7.30 Spradesk 6.00 The Main Event: I Was The: Staten Edberg 10.00 Sportadesk 10.1 Superbouts 11.30 Racing Today 12.1 Sportsdesk 12.30am I Was There

2./Overboard (1988): Goldis Hewn stars

estich bitch suffering from amnesia 5.: Oliver! (1968): Oscar-winning British

8.4.a Bamba (1987). Musicul biography of

10) Rain Man (1988) (See Talevision Film

12 jarry White Mischlef (1988): Greta

Scan and Charles Dence ster in this high

sody whodund set in Kenya's Happy Var in the Thirties

2.2 My Stepmother Is an Alien (1988)

Scitist Dan Aykroyd marries entra-terres

thack in roll singer Ritchie Valene

Choe for Christmas on page 14)

theirn Beariger Ends at 4.05

mical, stamno Mark Lester

TH POWER STATION W the Merco Polo satellita.

7.0km-4.30am Rock and pop

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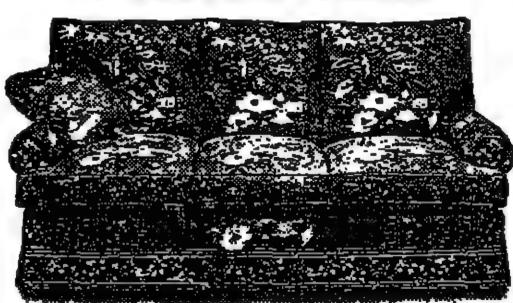
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2.20 Third Opinion (r) 3.10 BBC Scorush SO under Jerzy Maksymiuk performs Gade (Overture, Ossran), Bruch (Scottish Fantasia)

1.40 Interval Reading

3.55 New for St Albens: Peter Hurford plays the International Organ Competition's instrument at St Saviour's. Dandrieu (Noëls, Mais on san es alle naur. Si c'est pour ôter la vie): Böhrn (Partita, Ach wie nichtig); Dandrieu (Noël. Chanton je vous prie); Bach

(Chorale-pretudes: Herr Jesu Christ, BWV 655; Schmucke

drch, BWV 654; Nun danket Tempest): Quitter (O Mistress alle Gott, BWV 657; Fantasia Mine: Blow, Blow Thou Winter and Fugue in G minor, BWV Wind): Tchaikovsky (Overture, Hamlet): Prokofiev (Romeo and Juliet, excerpts): Ellington 4.45 All the World's a Globe: Episode 1. The National The Star-Crossed Lovers, Theatre of Brent presents the Suite, Such Sweet Thunder) history of mankind from the first amoebe to the second 8.35 Composers of the Week:

> 5.00 Bath Festival 1990: Augustin Dumay, violin, Gary Holtman, cello, Jean-Philippe Colland, plane, perform Schubert (Trio In E flat, Notturno, D 897); Trio in E flat, D 929) 6.35 Beecham's Sibelius: RPO performs Festivo, Scènes nistoricues I: At the Drawbridge; The Chase,

world war

Scènes historiques II 7.05 A Passion for Science: Jonathan Willer and Lewis Wolpert discuss how science differs from other creative

endeavours. 7.30 Visitors to the Proms: Three concerts from the 1990 Proms. Rotterdam PO under James Conion perform Ed de Boer (Homage to Dimitri vich); Britten (Pieno Concerto: Peter Donahoe. piano); Shostakovich

(Symphony No 5), Incl 8.10 merval Reading 9.15 Bach (Flute Sonata in E minor. BWV 1034: Stephen Presion, beroque flute, Trevor Pinnock, herpsichord, Jordi Savali, viola da gamba)

9,30 The 1990 Reith Lectures: The Persistence of Faith. A Community of Communities the last of six talks by Rabbi Dr Jonathan Sacks (r) 10.00 Angela Brownridge: The planist plays Chopin (Fantasy

in F minor, Op 49); Polonaise in B flat, Op 71 No 2; Mazurka in C sharp minor, Op 50 No 3; Polonaise in G sharp minor, Op posth: Polonaise fantasy in A fist. Op 61) 10.50 Stoviline Prophecies: Cormec Rigby reads translations of Pagan prophecies foretelling

the both of Christ, set by Lessus. Performed by A. Sei Voci 11.30 Composers of the Week: Handel (F) 12.30am News 12.35 Close

Starts: 10.00ams The Grand Carryon 11.25 Film: The Leman Drop Kid 1.00 News 1.06 The Emperor's New Clothes 2.25 Film: Rio Grands 4.20 Hobo's Christmas 5.00 The Angelus 6.01 News 6.15 The Pure Drop Special 6.45 Know Your Sport 7.15 Haunt-

NETWORK 2 Starts: 9.30em Breco 10.00 The Windom of the Gnomes 10.30 Elustoss 11.00 Count

Ductoria 11.30 Bestbon Cintetimes Speciel 1.35 Yes Virginia, There is a Senta Cleus 2.15 Mr Majeika 3.20 Adventures on Kythera 4.00 Hippy Birthdey 4.15 A Mozne, A Mystery and Me 4.45 T-Beg's Christmes Carol 5.15 Bugs vs Delfy 5.55 The Plank 6.25 Home and Away 6.50 Naucht 6.55 A Dedicated Man 7.30 Committion Street 6.00 News followed by Same Mothers Do 'Ave "Em 8.55 Sorge et Christmas 19.00 Film: On The Town 11,40 The RTE Van Brugh String

way in which the festival's words and music complement one another to achieve the perfect symbiosis (repeated tomorrow, Radio 3, 2.45pm, and Radio 5, noon) 4.30 Ad Lib: In the first of four programmes, Robert Robinson meets a group of monks from the Community of the

Resurrection in Mirrield,

Yorkshire (r) 5.00 PM, with Valerie Singleton 5.30 Reading Aloud: The First Ascent of the Matterborn, by Edward Whymper. Read by Richard Pasco (r) 5.50 Shipping 5.56 Weather 6.00 Sk O'Clock News; Financial

6.15 The Village (new series): Five daily programmes following Bables, by Deborah Moggach. the day-to-day triumphs and 10.45 Daily Service from the Salvation Army Men's Hostel Westminster (a) tragedies of a small, rural community. Presented by Noel Farrell 6.30 I'm Sorry t Haven't a Clue: 11,00 News; Far from the Madding Crowd: Fortunes. The first of a Chaired by Humphray

Lyttefton (s) (r) 7.00 News 7.05 The Archers

producer Deniel Snowman

of Janacek's The Cunning

Little Vixan, with a Royal

senes): Noune Hadig, an

Armenian Snow White, read

Simon Flattile (s) (r)

9.45 Even Grimmer Tales (new

witnessed the shaping of the

Royal Opera's new production

Opera debut by the conductor

With Janet Mew as Bathsheba 7.20 The Food Programme (r)
7.45 The Monday Play: Frost at Everdene (s) (r) Midnight, by André Obey. It is 12.00 News; Something to Celebrate: A renewal of not just the harsh winter that merriage vows in Margate. threatens the traditional performance of an English The first in a new series of five nativity play during the Christman of 1499 (s) (r) daily programmas 12.25pm Counterpoint: The final of the general knowledge music competition, chaired by Ned 9,15 Kaleidoscope: Last June,

Sherrin (s) 12.55 Weather 1.00 The World at One with Nick Clarka 1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast -2.00 News; Fox at the Manger: A magical re-taling of P.L. Travers's Christmas story. Nameted by Wendy Hitter (a)

presents the first of two -buc grinutest semmangouttakes and gattes (s) 3.00 News; A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carole: CHOICE: This Christmes Eve service from King's College Chapel, Cambridge, is a national benefit, annually bestowed. For anyone who has survived the year without selling out to crass. meterialism, it is the most

by Fiona Shaw. The first of 2.47 Bloopers: Jonathan Hewat three stories 9.59 Weather 10.00 News 10.05 Down Your Way: The Salvation Army's Croydon Citadel Band are out among the Christmas shoppers (r) 10.45 A Book at Bedtime: In My Wildest Dreams, by Lesie Thomas (8 of 12) (r)

11.00 Dear Diary: Simon Brett presents a selection of diary extracts written on Christmas Eve (s) 11.30-12.30am Midnight Mass from spiritually uplifting 90 minutes Crediton Parish Church, of the radio year. And not Devon (s) 12.33-12.43 even the most obdurate of Shipping Forecast secular aesthetes will be able

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m;FM-97.6-99.8. Radio 2: FM-88-90.2. Radio St. 1215kHz/ 247m; FM-90-92.4. Radio 4: 198kHz/1515m;FM-92.4-94.6. Radio 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. World Service: MW 648kHz/463m. Jazz FM 102.2. LBC: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. Capital: 1548kHz/194m; FM 95.8. GLR: 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9; Melody FM 104.9.

8.10 Film: The Looney, Lby, Looney Bugs Bunny Movie (1981). A compilation of Bugs by cartoons celebrating the careers of the canny rabbit and dir Friz Freieng Followed by Weather 9.30 Shout for Joy! Birmilm schoolchildren join the congregation at SI Francis Church, Howorth, to celebrate Christmas Day Mass. 10.30 Noel's Christmas Pints. Noel Edmonds distributes Christmas

gifts around the woo deserving souls, aided and abetted by Arthur Bostrom, Francho and David Essex 11.30 'Alio 'Alio! A chancese again the very first programme of the comedy series set cate in Nazi-occupied France, starring Gorden Kaye. The idhave hardly changed (Cecfax)

of their brilliantly styred classic sketches, plus spoot news bulletins. With guest Collins (r) 12.55 Dad's Army, Sublinome Guard comedy from the pompous Captain Mainwaring hur Lowe) and his eccentric irregulars. In this episode thay aritled in to help with the vicar's bazaar to

12.05 The Two Ronnies. huch-missed little and large in a selection

raise money for com for the troops (r) 1.30 Top of the Pops Climas Special. Mark Goodier and Anthea Turner took back at hits of 1990 and some of the tracks of Christmas past Simeous broadcast with Redio 1

2.30 EastEnders (Ceefax) 3.00 The Queen. Her Maj speaks to the Commonwealth. (Ceefax) 3.05 Film: ET (1982). See ivision Film Choice for Christmas on page

5.00 News with Jill Danddeefax) Weether



Separation: Nicholajadhurat and Gwynesi Strong (c. 14pm)

5.10 Only Fools and Hon . . : Rodney Comes Home. O CHOICE Future hrighs of popular culture may have a field day picking over a Bi Christmas Day schedule dominated by comedies about a low trader, a family of social security scroungers and the is of imprisoned criminals. The ratings of Only Fools and Horse. ... Bread and Birds of a Feather may be justification enough blo not explain why so many people should find low life stories for Perhaps it's the way they tell them. Only Fools and Horses . . The senior of the three and already well established as a Chriss Day special. The writer, John Sullivan, has never found diffic filling a longer slot and his latest offering maintains the standal-Following the recent trend of the series. much of the comedy bun off the female attachments as Raquel moves in with Del (Da Jason) and Rodney (Nicholas Lyndhurst) walks out on Cassani (Ceefax)

6.25 Bruce Forsyth's Chimas Generation Game. Brucie invites more family coupleto make fools of themselves in the irrepressible game shiwith the help of Rosemarie Ford (Ceefax) 7.30 Bread. Christmas don of Carta Lane's comedy about a

resourceful Liverpool nily (Cesfax) 8.20 Birds of a Feather: Fing in Love Again. Uninhibited comedy by Laurence Marks and jurice Gran about two sisters with jailbird husbands Sharon (Pshe Quirke) must try to get to Berlin and lay her hands on husbarChris's (Peter Polycarpou) bubble car, so that he can sell it alpay off gambling debts to the vicious McCarthy brothers. Vi a guest appearance by Leslie Crowther as a game show hos Ceetax)

9.35 News with Jill Dandoleefax) Weather 9.45 Film: Baby Boom (19). (Ceefax). See Television Film Choice for Christmas on page 1

11.30 Yes Minister: Party mes. Yet another comic classic is pulled out of the archives ataul Eddington and Nigel Hawthome play more political games vised by writers Antony Jay and Jonathan Lynn. Christmas festes are in full swing at the Ministry of Administrative Affairs at rumours of a Cabinet reshuffle make the season of goodwill a le less cheery (r). (Ceetax)

12.30am Christmas Presen. Writer Adrian Plass gives consideration to the country's oveidulgence each Christmas and wonders what it is all about

12.35 Film: The Quitter Micrandum (1966). Thin espionage thriller with a script by HaroPinter, although little of his characteristic style comes through eorge Segal stars as an American agent investigating a neo-Namovement in modern Berlin. The excellent supporting cast inclus Max Von Sydow, Alec Guinness and Robert Helpmann. Dicted by Michael Anderson. (Ceefax) 2.20

8.00 Film: Summer Holiday (1948) Stars Mickey Rooney, Gloria De Haven and Welter Huston Not the Cliff Fichard bus excursion, but a musical adaptation of Eugene O'Neill's play Ah Wilderness! telling the story of a young man who decides to make his family

father Good numbers and polished playing but director Rouben Mamoulian fails to impose his usual style 9.30 Film: Watership Down (1978) Animated cartoon adapted from the best-selling novel by Richard Adams. A group of rabbits, seeking a place to live, encounter many dangers along the way. One of the best non-Disney animated features, it is both enjoyable and emotional, though youngsters will find some of its scenes frightening Benefits from an excellent score from Angele Holden of Art of Noise and the theme, "Bright Eyes", which was an international hat for Art Gertunkel With the voices of John Hurt,

sorry when his romance with a local gart is ruined by her accusing

Richard Briers, Hannah Gordon and Roy Kinnear. Written. produced and directed by Michael Rosen. (Ceefax) 11.00 Gotta Dance, Gotta Sing. John Harlan namates a history of the

movie musical The many clips include Al Jotson in The Jazz Singer, the flamboyant routines of Busby Berkeley and the outrageous Rocky Horror Show (r) 11.45 The Famous Teddy Z: Season's Greetings from Al Floss, Lame

American comedy about a Hollywood teenager's meteoric rise in the film agent's industry Staming Jon Cryer 12.10 Beethoven Symphonies. Roger Norrington conducts the London

Classical Players in a performance of Symphony No 3 in E Flat, Op 55, the Erosca 1.00 Drift, The Mute Swan. Simon King's delightful documentary that follows Dritt and her mate Sallow, who live and breed on the

Somersel Wetlands But is their existence as tranquil as it appears? Narrated by John King (r) 2.00 Christmas Day Concert. Chris de Souza introduces the traditional live concert from the Concertgebouw, Amsterdam. Riccardo Hailly conducts Liszt's Faust Symphony. With tenor actoist Hans-Peter Blochwitz and the Netherlands Radio Choir

3.10 Animation Now: Try Again and Succeed. Orson Welles narrates the story of a young eagle chick leaving the nest 3.20 Henry Moore and Landscape. A study of the relationship between sculpture and nature

3.50 Film: Powaqqatsi (1988) Godfrey Reggio follows up his acclaimed production Koyaanisqatsi with this compelling film, a hypnotic bombardment of images from the Third World. By juxtaposing these images against those from the First World. Reogio successfully shows one society that benefits at the expense of another. There is no plot or dialogue but Philip Glass's score more than compensates. Directed by Godfrey Reggio

5.25 Joyce Grenfell 1910-1979. A celebration of a rare comic talent. It charts her rise in showbusiness which was triggered by an impromptu monologue she performed at a party. Her speciality was the gentle mocking of middle-class manners and customs. and among her most famous characters were the nursery school teacher, the gawky hockey mistress, and the wife of the chancellor of an Oxbodge university. First shown in 1981, the film is nameted by Celia Johnson and includes extracts from Granfell's films. including Genevieve (r)

6.25 The Curning Little Vixen. Simon Rattle conducts Leos Janáček's opera in praise of nature, in the recent production from the Royal Opera House, Coverrt Garden. Stars Gwynne Howell, Thomas Allen and Stephen Walder Simultaneous broadcast with Radio 3 8.15 The Queen. Her Majesty speaks to the Commonwealth. With subtitles and sign-language interpretation by Maureen Denmark



Engineers of failure: Daniel Auteuii (left), Yves Montand (8.20pm)

8.20 Film: Jean de Florette (1986). See Television Film Choice for Christmas on page 14 10.20 Amnesty International Benefit Concert. Highlights from the concerts held in Chile, featuring Chilean groups Congresso and Inti Illimeni and international pop stars Sting, Peter Gabriel. Jackson Brown and Sinead O'Connor

11.30 Film: Notorious (1946, b/w). (Ceefax) See Television Film Choice for Christmas on page 14 1.10 Weather

6.00 TV-am. Includes, at 8.00, Cliff Richard's Christmas Day Special in which the ageless star tells the story of Christmas, sings some songs, shows clips from his latest tour and introduces the

Cholrboy of the Year 9.25 Cartoons at Christmas. A Tweety Fie triple bill (r) 9.50 Telethon - Thanks to You. Michael Aspel finds out how money raised by Telethon 90 will help make this a merry Christmas for

people in need 10.45 Find a Family Update. Youngsters who featured in ITV's Find a Family campaign enjoy Christmas at a stately home in the New

Forest with their new femilies 11.00 Christmas Family Consmunion from All Saints Church, Fulham, 12.00 The Disney Club Christmas Special. Andrea Boardman, John

Ecclesion and Gordon Inglis offer Christmas greetings from Aspen, Colorado, with special guests Danvill Minogue and Breathe 1.00 Ronn Lucas Special - Who's In Charge Here? American ventriloquist Ronn Lucas live on stage

2.00 Torvill & Dean with the Russian Alisters. An ice spectacular from Nottingham, where Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean perform with Russian Olympic skating stars

3.00 The Queen. Her Majesty speaks to the Commonwealth 3.05 Film: Moonraker (1979). Traditional helping of 007 for the festive day, although it is one of the weakest of the series and no match for ET on BBC1. Bond's mission is to locate a missing US/British space shuttle which has mysteriously disappeared during a test flight. He finds himself up against the meglomaniac Hugo Drax, who, like most Bond adversaries, is bent on world domination. With Roger Moore, Michael Lonsdale and Lois Chiles. Directed by Lewis Gebert (Oracle)

5.25 News with Richard Bath. Weather 5.30 Strike It Lucky Christmas Special hosted by Michael Barrymore. The jackpot goes to children's charities



"How tickled I am": Ken Dodd, king of the Diddymen (6.15pm)

6.15 Ken Dodd at the London Palladium.

 CHOICE: With his carefully dishevelled hair and flashing fange Doddy is back on the screen for a Christmas special, proving that he is still just about the best of our stand-up comics. Apert from a performing seal act this is virtually a solo effort, delivered with Dodd's characteristic energy and gift for timing. His act is in the tradition of the great music half performers, such as Max Miller. and crucially depends on an ability to play off a live audience. At the same time he manages the trick which Miller never mastered of reaching out to the television audience at home. His material is a mixture of high-speed nonsense, with the same sort of surreal logic as Alice in Wonderland, and topical gags. Doddy may be a bit of a xenophobe but his comment on the threat posed by the enlarged Germany ("now you will never get a sunbed in Mejorca") is both funny and contains more than a germ of truth

7.30 Coronation Street. How fares the day in the Street? Gail has news for the family, Curty finds a soulmate. Alec bites off more than he can chew and the Duckworths take refuge. (Oracle) 8.00 Film: Beverly Hills Cop II (1987). (Oracle) See Television Film Choice for Christmas on page 14

10.00 French Fields. Undernanding sitcom starring Julia McKenzie and Anton Rodgers as the English couple making a new life for themselves across the Channel 10.45 News with Richard Beth. Weather 11.00 Film: What's Up Doc? (1972). Pastiche screwball cornedy with the

unlikely screen partnership of Barbra Streisand and Ryan O'Neal. Scatterbrained genius Judy throws herself on sluffy Howard at a musicologists' convention. Their relationship is complicated by a rack collection, jewels and stolen government papers. An untaking giggle for a Christmas night slump. Directed by Peter Bogdanovich 12.50am Film: Murder Me, Murder You (1983). A made-for-television

thriller starring Stacy Keach as private investigator Mike Hammer. Above average mystery that led to a successful series of Hammer stories. Directed by Gary Nelson. Followed by News headlines 2.40 Film: Feel the Motion (1986). Uninspiring West German pop musical starting Sissy Kelling, Pia Zadora and Meatloaf. Tina works as a garage mechanic but she dreams of being a pop singer. Full of energy but not much else. Directed by Wolfgang Buld.

4.35 Sounds Like Christmas. A look at the business of selling records at Christmas with memories of past Christmas number ones 5.35 Cartoon Time. Cartoon double bill (r) 5.55 ITN Morning News with Phil Roman. Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

6.00 Bobby Jones Gospel (r) 6.30 The Art of Landscape 7.00 Trans World Sport, Includes the presentation of the Trans World Sport's Sportsmen and Sportswoman of the Year awards

8.25 The Oprah Winfrey Show. Oprah interviews the New Kids on the

9.15 Countdown Masters. Word men Geoff Taylor and Robert Cotton tackle a testive conundrum

9.25 Sesame Street. Pre-school educational series 10.25 Batman and Robin (b/w) In episode two the dynamic pair retrieve some stolen diamonds 10.45 And The Lighthouse Made Three. 10.55 Cirque du Soleii: We Re-invent the Circus. This is a circus with a

difference, founded in 1984 by a group of street entertainers from Quebec. There are no animals, no fion temers and no individual

12.00 Arnold Palmer: Signing Off. Arnold Palmer looks back on a golfing career that has spanned three decades 1.00 Lisa Stansfield - All Around the World. The hit singer talks to

Paul Gambaccini about her life and career 2.00 Talking Turkey - The Alternative Christmas Lunch. An irreverent look at Christmas with Warren Mitchell and Nina Myskow. They are joined around the table by Helen Lederer, John Noakes, Johnny Speight and Frank Sidebottom. Barry Took is the

2.50 Max Walt: A Life Class. Revelations about the late Max Wall from final-year students at Liverpool and Manchester Art Colleges who questioned him about his life in 1986

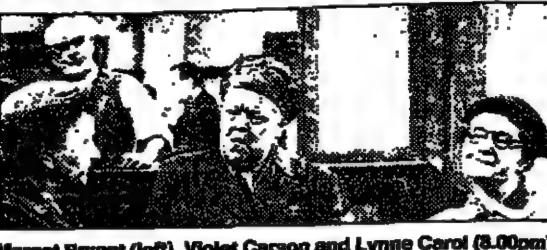
3.20 The Huge Adventures of Trevor a Cat. Surreal Australian cartoon 3.30 Film: It's A Gift (1934, b/w). See Television Film Choice for

4.45 The Queen's Christmas Message. Her Majesty speaks to the Christmas on page 14

4.55 News summary and weather 5.00 Faerie Tale Theatre: Jack and the Beanstalk. Shelley Duvall brings the Brothers Grimm classic to the screen with a cast that includes Katherine Helmond as Jack's mother, Elliott Gould and Jean Stapleton as the giant and giantess and Dennis Christopher as the young Jack. (Teletext)

5.55 The Further Adventures of Billy The Fish. The first of a new series about the half-man, half-fish, goalkeeping genius 6.00 Film: The Snowman (1982) See Television Film Guide for Christmas on page 14

6.30 A Different World. American college comedy series 7.00 Father Oleg, Mother Russia. A profile of Fr Oleg Cherepanin, a Russian Orthodox priest who believes that Soviet society is facing both an economic and a moral crisis and that the only possible salvation lies in a return to spiritual values. (Teletext)



Margot Bryant (left), Violet Carson and Lynne Carol (8.00pm)

8.00 The Coronation Street Birthday Lecture. CHOICE. A perceptive view of 30 years of the northern soap comes from one of its biggest fans, Roy Hattersley Promising no paradigms, sub-texts or symbolism, Hattersley sticks to an uncomplicated reading which stresses the quality of scripts and acting and the unpatronising representation of the lives of ordinary people. He argues the paradox that while the show is at its best when it sticks to its own territory, it has a resonance which goes far beyond the confines of working-class Lancashire. In another useful insight Hattersley contrasts the show's abrasive style with its warm-hearted content and suggests that Coronation Street is essentially an affirmation of family values. Clips from each of the programme's three decades are a reminder of the standard of writing and the vivid characterisations from a raft of fine players, including Violet Carson. Arthur Lowe and Jean Alexander.

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9.00 Carmen on ice. The hot-blooded Carmen is ice-cool on skates in this much-loved opera by Bizet. Olympic figure-skating champ Katarina Witt is partnered by two Olympic winners, Brian Boitano and Brien Orser

10.30 Nigel Kennedy Plays Bruch. The spiky-haired violinist performs Mex Bruch's Concerto No 1 in G Minor with the City of London 11.15 He Turned Up. Ian Mackenzie, son of a Scottish pastor, looks

back on a lifetime of experiences, and connects the Christmas story with dramatic events in his own life. (Teletext) 12.15em Film: Rouge (1987). See Television Film Choice for Christmas on page 14. Ends at 2.05

SHELDE SKY ONE

 Via the Astra and Marco Polo selites. 6.00em The DJ Kat Show 8.40 Plabout 8.50 Joanne Loves Chache 9.10 lere's Boomer 9.30 Christmas World 100 Mr if to Beaver 11.30 Carols of Christing 2.00 Nors's Christmes Gift 1.00pm Mot and Son 1.30 ALF 2.00 Dolly 3.00 The leen's Speech 3.10 Wife of the Week 4,00he DJ Kat Show 5.00 Lost in Space 5.00 amily Ties 6.30 Sale of the Century 7.00 we at First Sight 7:30 Doctor Doctor 8:00 Peretti The Event. A gaia performance fro Mian, featuring the Italian tenor 10,00 Love First Sight 10.30 Endurance 11.30 Chat Set Up 12.00am Chicket: The Ashes To Live coverage of the first day of the secdi Test from Melbourne between Engler and

SKY NEWS News on the hous. 5.00am International Business Rept 5.30 Newstra 6.00 Sunnse 6.30 Bayor 2000

9.00 Dayline 9.30 Newsline 10.30 Medilei 11.30 Review '90 - The Gulf Crisis 1.30pm MBC Today Part One 2.30 NBC Today 3.30 Review '90 - The Gult Chais 4.80 Beyond 2000 5.00 Live at Five 6.30 Newsfine 7.30 Medital 8.30 Review '90 - The Gulf Crise 10.30 Newsine 11.30 NBC Nightly News 12.30em Newsine 1.30 NBC Nightly News 2.30 Review '90 — The Gulf Citals 3.30 Meditel 4.30 Newsline

SKY NEWS News on the hour.

5.00am International Business Report 5.30 Newsine 6,00 Sunrise 6.30 Beyond 2000 9.00 Dayline 9.30 Newstine 10.30 Meditel 11.30 Review '90 - The Gulf Cheis 1.30pm The Steeping Beauty 3.30 Schubert's G Major Mass 4.30 Fred Astaire Special 5.30 Beethoven's Choral Fentasia 7.30 fi Frovetore 10.35 Dylan Thomas 11.30 Elict Fish Gullar Solo 12.30gm Newsine 1.30 NBC Nightly News 2.30 Review '90 - The Gulf Crisis 3,30 Medital 4.30 Newstine

SKY MOVIES Vie the Astra satellite. 6.00am Showcasa 8.00 My Little Pony: Animsted tale

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YOUR OWN BUSINESS?

MTV Via the Astra satelike. 6.00am Twenty-lour nours of rock and pop

Edmund Gwenn stars as a department store Senta Claus who may or may not be the real Vis the Astra sassifite. Fether Christmas 2.00pm A Christmas Story (1983) Peter comic account of a boy's ettempts to ensure he receives a toy gun for Christmas 4.00 Coccor: The Return (1988) Sequel to the fantasy hit Cocoon in which six senior citizens, who have been given the chance of étérnai youth on an alien planet, return to

6.00 Who Framed Roger Rebbit? (1988). (See Television Film Choice for Christmas on 8.00 Good Morning Vistnam (1987). (See Television Film Chaice for Christmas on 10.00 No Way Out (1987): A neval officer

(Kevin Costner) shares a lover (Sean Young) with the US defence secretary (Gene 11.50 Robocop (1987): A future cop (Peter Weller) is transformed into a cyborg and let loose on the mean streets of Depoil 2.00am Nurs (1987) Branded Insane, a prostitute (Barbra Stresand) fights for her ngitt to stand theil or manslaughter 4.00 Party Camp (1986) A summer camp courselloi (Andrew Ross) determines to

have some fun Ends at 5.35 EUROSPORT

Earth for a holiday

w Vis the Astra satellite 5.00am Az Sky One 7 30 Basebell 8.30 Europics 9.00 Judo European Championships 9.30 Word Aerobases Champion-Street 10.00 reterrations: Motor Sport 11.00 Three-Cushion Billiands 12.00 Eurobics 12-30pm 1990 Terms Cassics 3.30 1990 Tennis Classics Steff Gret v Arentia Sanchez 4,30 Equestranism 1990 Europeart Community Trophy 5.30 Ascent of the Matterhom. Documentary 7.00 Alaska Sports Spocial 8.00 Ion Skitting Special Torvil and Dean Issewell from Brackret 9.00 Wrestling 10.00 Cross Country Slung 11.00 Terms Documentary: Chrs Even 12.00

SCREENSPORT

Bodybuilding

 Via the Astra setolite. 7.00am Goong from the Forum 8.30 Gott 9.00 "Go" Dutch Mater Sports 10.00 Argentinum Football 11.00 to Hockey 1.00pm The Rothman's Cemenary Snooker Challenge 3.00 High Five 3.30 US Professonal Boxong 5.00 Pro Ski Tout 6.00 los Hockey USA v Soviet Ution 8.00 Powersports 9:00 World Snooker Classics 11.00 US PGA 1990 Review

RADIO 1

9.35 Frosty's Winter Wonderland Animated tele about Frosty the Snowmen 10.00 Carry On Doctor (1968) The Carry On team's humorous treatment of patients fiede latragent tenage gnaloven 12.00 Mirscle on 34th Street (1947): LIFESTYLE

> 10.00em Everyday Workout 10.30 Search for Tomorrow 10.55 Cottee Break 11.00 Samply Marvellous 11.25 Spain Spain Holfday 11.35 The Edge of Night 12.00 Sally Jessy Rephael 12.50pm Body Talk 1.00 Great American Gameshows 2.30 Remington Steele 3.30 Lifestyle Plus 3.40 Telement 4.05 Gregt American Gameshows 5.20 Tea Breek 5.30 WKRP in Cincinnsh 6.00 The Sell-a-Vision Shopping Channel 8.00 JSTV 10.00 The Self-e-Vision Shopping Channel 12.00 Satelite Jukebox

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

Via the Marco Polo satellite. 1.00am Houston Knights (1988): Cops Michael Pane and Alichael Back team up to agnifier betelen-gurb to sense a evice 12.45pm The Movie Show 1.15 Scrooged (1988): A mean-spirited (elevision boss (Bill Murray) is taught the 3.05 Time Bandits (1981) A bored school troy is taken back through history to meet

such legends as Robin Hood and Nagolson 5.45 The Advertures of Baron Mun-chausen (1989) (See Felevision Film Choice for Christmas on page 14) 8.00 Crocodile Dunder II (1988) Mici "Crocodile" Duncee (Paul Hogan) is pursued from New York to Australia by a gang of Colombian drug emuggiers 10.00 A Fish Called Wanda (1988) John

Clease stars as a stard terrister, who becomes involved with a double-crossing gang of jewel threves 12.90 Scandal (1989) (See Television Film Choice for Craistress on page 14) 2.00am Punchine (1988) A medical stu cient (Tom Hanks) and a housewell (Selly Field) try their hand at stand-up comedy.

THE SPORTS CHANNEL Via the Marco Polo satellite. 1.25pm Sportsdask 1,30 Celebrity Towns 3.00 Moment of the Year 4.00 American Sports Cavalcade 5.00 | Was There: The imbledon Women's Singles 7.00 Amencen Wrestling 7.55 Sportsdeak 8.00 I Was There: Motorsport 1990 Review 9.55 Sportsdesk 10.00 I Was There: Nick Feldo 12.00 I Was There: Motorsport 1990 Flewer

THE POWER STATION Vis the Marco Polo satellite 7.00km Twenty-three hours of rock and pop

FM Starso and MW. 5.00em Gery King 7.30 The Greatdest Show 10.00 Simon Beand with dedications from the forces including those in the Guff and the Falklands 1.00pm QUs. Consorred Dinner Particle 1.30pm Christmas Top of the Pops (with 2501) 2.30 Cus Christmas Dinner Parl two 3.30 The Chris Monte Christmas Show 5.30 Jenny Costedo 7.30 The Chinsteres Concerts. Knebwarth 90 10.30-2.00mm Nicky

RADIO 2

FM Stereo 4.00am Steve Medden 7.00 Sing the Story The actress Keelry Staff reflects on | 10.40 A Christmas Stocking: Morning Christines 10.00 The Queen 10 10 Michael Acpet Sounds of the Seventice 12.00 Judith Chairners 1.00pm Ken Cocci 1.30 The News Huddines Christmes Cracker 2.00 Tom Contr's Christians Collector: 4.00 James Last and his Orchestra 6.00 Alan Technarsh's Christman Show 7.00 A Peccie's Card (r) 7.30 Steve Rece 9.00 from Rebroff (r) 10.00 Ken Bruco 12.05em Kenny Rogers 1.00-4.00 8-t Rennella

6.00em World Service 6.30 Children's RADIO 5 Christmas Carols (r) 7.30 We Wish You a Marry Christians Feetive stones and music, inci 9.00 The Queen 9.30 Take Five 10.25 1 2.3.4.5 10.40 Take Five 12.00 Name Lagrana and Carole (r) 1.30 An Ost-Fashioned Committees (r) 2.00 Revoluing Roymes First of today's three takes by Roeld Dahl 2.05 1 2.3.4, 5 (7, 2.20 Revoluing Rhymes 2.30 World Service 4.30 Every Child's Christman 6 00 Families 6.30 Tim Rise of Christman Past Unitsuel Christman records (1 of 2) 7.00 Concernly Stones Genda Jackson's choice is from Listle Women (r) 7.15 Repoliting Paymes 7.20 What's Micong with Contraction? Part 2 Christmes Day with William 7.35 Bill's New Frock (r) 8.00 Celebrary Scores Bully Assessment reads from The 101 Delinebone (r) 8.15 The 13th Owl A Mystery to Construes (r) 8.40 Christmas Wrapping (r) 9.00 Nighthest 9.30 He the North 11,08-12,00 Kand Service 11,58-12,05em Sport

WORLD SERVICE Feeture 5.35 News in Germen, Meadines in All tyries in GMT 5.00em Germen Christmes English and Franch 5.47 Chracimas Music 6.00 Newsdeck 6.30 Londres Mater 7 00 News 7 09 24 Hours 7 30 New Ideas 7 50 Tales from Waters 8.00 News 8.09 Words of Fasts 8 15 Concert Hell Cametes Domingo and Penerotte 9.00 The Queen 9.05 News 9 15 The world Today 9.30 Festives of Nine Lessons and Carols 11.00 News 11.09 News 43our Breas: 11.15 Wavequide 11.30 Meb Magazine 12.00 New#on 12 15pm (Author) 1 12.45 Com s Christman Cracker 1.00 Hours 1 09 24 Hours 1.30 hemogra UK 1 45 8-Side Sed" 2 00 have 2.30 Off the Short Christines Chiters 2.45 Instruments of the Orchests 3.00 Fre Queen speaks to the Conxectiveson 3.15 A Joby Good Show 4.00 News 4.09 News About Shiam 4 15 68C English 4.30 News in German. Queen a Christmas Messago in German 5.00 News 5.09 Lotung Homewards 5.15 Best of Lemoroux 5.30 Londres See 6.15 33C English 6.30 News in German, Queen's Christines Message in German 7.54 News in German 8.00 News 8.09 Hody 8.25 Words of Faith 8.30 Mancan 9.01 Color's Christmas Gracier 9 15 The Christmas Story 9.15 The Christmas Story 9.30 Magazini 10.00 Newshoot 11.00 The Queen speaks to the Commonwealth 11.05 News 11.10 Lookung Homewards 11 15 Concort Mas Certeras, Dellargo and Pavaroti 12.00 Newsdask 12.30em Omnibus 1 01 And tick in Colour 1.30 Media Water 1.45 Country Siyle 2.00 News 2.09 Review of the Broat Press 2.15 Hectift Matters 2.30 Storm Clouds Over the Himeleyes 3.00 News 3.09 News About Britain 3.15 The Chrobnes Story 3.30 Decovery 4,00

Newsdook, 4.30 Bost of Lecentron 4.45 have and Press Panew at German

BORDER As London except: 9.25em The Moderntor's Christmas Message 9.35-9.50 Carols for Christians Morn

CENTRAL As London except: 2.40em-4,35 Film: Grampian As London except 9.25em The Modera-

tor's Christmas Message 9.35-9.50 Carols SCOTTISH As London except \$25mm The Modernfor's Christians Message 9.35-9.50 Carloon

TYNE TEES As London except: 9.25am-9.50 inner

Starts: 6.00em Early Morning 9.25 Sesame Street 10.25 The Adventures of Betragg and Robin 10.45 The Creation 12.48 Tonight...with Jonathan Ross 1.05 The Queen .15 Film: Camelot 4.30 Slot 23 5.30 Bw. ywysog Bech Y Trols 6.25 Newyddian 6.30 label Y Own 7.00 Jack Jones 8.05 Back Dolig Caryl A Dylan 8.05 CM 10.35 Carmen

on ice 12.05 The Other Side of Jerry Sedowicz 12.15 Change Ghost Stories Rogue 205 Dwedd

Starte: 9,25cm Service 10.10 Alfreinn No Feile Noting 10.55: Urbl Et Orbl 11.30 Christmas Messages: 11.40 Sign of the Times 12.05 Richard Buston's A Christmas Story 12.55 Name tollowed by Barnum and Basiey Circus 1.50 The French Connection 111 2.15 Film: The Princess Bride 3.50 Fair City 7.30 Play the Game Christmas Show 8.00 Christmas with Bibs 9.30 Noves 9.40 Film: My.Left Foot 11.20 Make Mine Music Christmas Special 12.26em French Fields 1.05 Name 1.15 Close **NETWORK 2**

Starts: 7.40mm Bosco 8.10 Mighty Mouse 8.46 Santa Claus is Coming to Town 9.55 The Small One 10.35 Turkey Love 11.16 Happy Birthday 11.30 Disney Special 12.30 Grance 1.05 Festival: Missa Luba 1.55 Christmas Concert from the Concertgebotw, Ameterdam 3.15 Nightengel 3.35 Jo-Mard 4.35 Home and Away 5.00 Top of the Poce 6.00 Glenroe 6.25 Cursai Na Noting 6.55 Nuscht 7.00 Only Fools and Horses Christmas Special 7.35 Coronation Street 8.00 Film: The Gift 8.30 Joe Sedelmaier "Mad in the USA" 9.55 Tchallovsky Gala from Lenwigred 11,20 Film: Reserve



ice spectacular: Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean (ITV, 2.00pm)

RADIO 3

6.55am Weather and News Headines 7.00 Christmas in Paris (new senes) Four programmes of secred music by the medieval composer Perotin and his French Baroque successors. Anon (Chanis of Chastmas Matins from muclieval Aquitaine: Ensemble Organum

under Marcel Perès, ordan). Anon (Ysaias cecinit); Perolin Viderunt omnes: Hillard Ensemble)

7.30 News 7.35 Morning Concert: Berlioz (Overture, Weiverly); Haydin (Cello Concerto in D); J.C. Blach (Symphony in E flat, Op 18 No 1, for double Orchestra)

8.30 News 8.35 Composers of the Week: Offenbach (Mesdames de la falle: Monte Carlo PO under Manuel Rosenthal). Sung in

9.35 Messe de Minust: Mass as it might have been celebrated in 17th-century Paris. Chant Choir and London Baroque perform Charpentier's setting of the Mess for Christmas night, based on French carols of the period. The chant is from contemporary Parisian Sources (r)

> Waldteutel (The Skaters' Waltz, Op 183: Orchestra of the Vienna Volksoper under Bauer-Thouseth: Vegenovsky (Sonata Nataks, Virtuosi Saxoniae, with Ludwig Guttler and Matthes Schmutzler, (rumpets); Prokofiev (Licuterant Käär Chicago SO under Abbado); Puccini (Quando me'n vo soletta, La Bohème: LPO under John Priichard, with Kin Te Kanews. soprano). Grainger (Blithe Bells Bournemouth Sintonietta under Kenneth Montgomery); Walton (Make We Joy Now in This Fest Chine Church Cathedral Chor under Stephen Derington), Bach (Seniona, Christmas Oratorio: English Baroque Soloists Under John Eliot Gerdiner): Borodin (In the Steppes of

under Salonen), Prokohev Five Dances from Cindensia: SNO uncles Janu) 12.00 Alessandro Scarletti: London Hondel Orchestra under Denys Deriow, with Gillian Fisher, soprano, partorina concertos end centatas. including the Cantella pastorale per le materità del nostro signore Gesú Cristo (/)

Central Asia Bayanan RSO

1.05 Mikhail Pletney The planist plays Grieg (Lyric Pieces: Op 54 No 6, Op 57/6, Op 38/1; Op 43/1, Op 68/2; Op 57/1; Op 54/3), Tcherkovsky (Chadren's Album, Op 39) (r) 2.00 Music Weekly (r) 2.45 A Festival of Nine Lessons and

Carols (broadcast yesterday on Radio 4) 4.15 Enk Salie (Ogives: Aldo Ciccolmi: Parade: French National Orchestra under Manuel Rosenthal) 4.45 All the World's a Globa: Episode 2

5.00 Northern Sinfonia under

Heinrich Schift performs Mozart (Adagio and Fugue In C mmor, K 546); Britten (Prejude and Fugue, Op 29); Mozart (Symphony No 29 In A. K 201) (r) 5.45 Les Bancades misténeuscu: Kenneth Gilbert, harpsichord performs Couperin (Prélucie

No 7 in 8 flat. L'Art de toucher la clavecin. Ordra No 6, 2nd ivre de pièces de clavecin) 6.25 The Cunning Little Voien: From the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, the Royal Opera Chorus; ROH Orchestra under Simon Rattle performs Janaček's opera in three acts. With Gwynne Howell. Badger/Prest, and Rebecca Bainbridge, Vivien cub

(smultaneous broadcast with 89C2) 8.15 Valmouth: CHOICE: Having let its hair World's a Globe (see 4.45pm), Radio 3 goes the whole Christmas Day hop and lets it cascade to the ground with Givn Doarman's 1975 production of Sandy Wilson's ne luode leciaum praiddud English spe town gripped by love lever "Too much bliss!" gasps Fenelle Fielding's libidingus widow. Not a bit of ati This is uninterrupted joy, with Aunt Sallies such as clencs, anstocratis, medical chartelens and homy-handed sons of tool all being set up and wickedly knocked down 10.10 BBC Scottish SO under Jerzy

Stravensky (Petrushka) 10.45 Takacs String Ouarted performs Hayon (Quartet in E ital, Op 33 No 2), Beethoven

Maksymus periorina

(Quartel in Ciminor, Op 18 No 11.30 Composers of the Week: Handel (1) 11.55-7.05cm Test Match Special (MW only): Australia v England. The first day of the

second Tast from Molocume

12.30-12.35am News (FM only)

RADIO 4

s) Stereo on FM 5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.00 News. Prelude with Manone Lofthouse (s) 6.30 A Nut and a Tangenne: John Waite opens his Christmas stocking with the help of studio quests, a chor and a live turkey (s),

inci 7.00, 8.00 News 6.55. 7.55 Weather 8.43 William: The Outlaws and Cousin Percy. The second of three stones by Richmal Cromoton 8.58 Weather 9.00 The Oveen speaks to the Communwealth (s)

9.05 News

9.10 Christmas Morning Service: A family calebration from Chester cathedral 10.00 News Quiz of the Year: Barry Took hosts the test of two programmes in which Alan Coren, Richard Ingrams, Ian Hislop and Andrew Flawnsley enswer questions on the

10.30 Hoexi John Chapman Maureen Luoman and John Walls tell seesonal stones which could be true or false. With Tim Brooke Taylor in the Char (5) 11.00 News, Far from the Maddang Crowd. "Marry Me". Part two

year's news (s)

Thomas Hardy's novel (s) 12.00 Nows, Something to Celebrate Part 2. A "torever family" for Matthew and Samentha 12.25pm Quote . . . Unquote. Nigel flees hosts the popular

of a surport dramatisation of

1.00 The Queen speaks to the Commonwealth (s) (r) 1.05 News 1.10 Talking Turkey Stephen Pile broads upon the domestic Bettish Christmas

quotation game (s) 12.55

1,40 The Archers (r) 1,55 Shippeng Forecast 2.00 With Great Pleasure: Actross Gwen tranccon-Davies presents a selection of her favounts postry and prose to colebrate her 100th birthcay

3.00 News, Peter Pannot a her As a character. Graham McGrath's Poter

next month (8)

 CHOICE Glyn Dearman's. radio version of this overcities fantasy does the dead Barno and the living rest of us a rare favour by making Peter a him. media his match in Rob-H

narrator belongs to Alex McCowen Lucinda Bateson's Wendy is a proper Darling This Christmas Day treat can also be a year-round treat because if is available on cassette in the BBC Radio Collection series (s) (r) 4.50 The Bottom of the Garden. Memones of time spent in the outside lavatory

Darling Barne's voice as

5.00 Giselle Dancing Members of the Royal Ballet tell the story of love betraval, death and revenge. With Lynn Seymour as Giselle (s) (r) 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather 6.00 Sex O Clock News 6.05 Bloopers Jonathan Hewall

with a second selection of outlakes and gattes (s) 6.15 The Village. The second of five programmes focussing on life in a small rural community 6.30 Flying the Flag Cultural Exchange Alex Shearer's wry observation of East-West diplomacy With Dinscale Landen as MacKenzie and

Sutikov (final part) 7 00 News 7.05 The Archers 7.20 Today's the Day Election Special The residents c: Eccleshill in Bradford go to the 7.45 Concerto American victorist

Christopher Benjamin as

Ruggiero Ricci talks to June Know Mawer (1 of 3) (5) ir: 8.45 Tuning in Live from Linguished. Dead from Concaster Michael Bentire presents an in-pepth analysis of the world of wireless (1 of 3)

9.15 Kaleicoscope, Harold Pinter at 50 Paul Allen meets the լել (Հ) (միջոստանի 9.45 Even Commer Tales. The Little Red Fish and the Cloc of Gold An tract Conderesta story 9.59 Weather

10 00 News 10.05 The Carol Composer Brian Kay taks to John Rufter (s) (f) 10 45 A Book at Bestime in the Wildest Oreams, by Lesba Thomas (9 of 12) (r)

11.00 Va. Memories of theatrical dig: and the ladies who kept 11.45 (Auditation for Christmas) Night Foet Nigel Force and his wife religion on the elemal Spent of Christmas (3) 12.00-12.30am News 1701 12 27

Weather 12.33-12.43 Lang's Capten Hook/Mr Shipping Feregast FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m 1089kHz/275m FM-97 8-99 8 Fadio 2: FM-88-90.2 Radio 3: 1215kHz/ 247m, FM 90 124 Radio 4: 156kHz/1515m,FM 924946 Radio 5: 693 Hz/433m. World Service VW 648kHz/463m Jezz FM 1022 LBC: 15ChHz/261m FM 973 Capital: 1549412/194m; FM 95.8. GLR: 1458412/2057; FM 94.9. Molody FM 104.9

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RYGEL

7.00 Children's BBC, presented by Simon Parkin, Andi Peters, and Philippa Forrester begins with Wizbit. Megical advantures with Paul Damels (r) 7.25 The Nightingale. Christopher Plummer tells the story by Hens Christian Andersen (r) 7.50 Playdays, Includes a visit to St George's Hospital in Tooting, London (r) 8.10 The Island of Nevawuz. Animaled tale set on an undiscovered island 9.00 The Man Called Flintstone. Feature-length musical adventure with Fred, Barney, Wilma, Betty and the rest of the residents of

10.30 World Cup 90. Desmond Lynam introduces a chance to relive the action from the World Cup finals in Italy, Including England's nellbiting progress through to the semi-finals, Gezza blubbing. treland's plucky first appearance in the tournament and Scotland's dramatic departure

11.30 Film: Are You Being Served? (1977). The staff of Grace Brothers department store take themselves off to the Costa Pionka for some Spanish sauce and double entendres with a distinctly British flavour. Feeble spin-off from the television series with the regular cast headed by Mollie Sugden, John Inman and Frank Thornton. Directed by Bob Kellett. (Cestax)

1.00 The Good Life: Silly But It's Fun. Easy-going comedy about alternative subsistence in suburbia. Cut off from the usual comforts of civilised life, Christmas does not go quite according to plan. With Richard Briers, Felicity Kendal, Penelope Keith and Paul Eddington (r)

1.30 News with Chris Lowe. Weather 1.35 Film: The Poseidon Adventure (1972). Very popular but hugely overrated disaster movie with Gene Hackman as the minister who sees the light when an ocean liner is capaized by a giant tidal wave. He leads his small flock along the only feasible routs of escape, through the bottom of the ship, which is now the top. Emest Borgnine, Shelley Winters and Red Buttons are among those trying to follow him. Directed by Ronald Neams. (Ceefax)

3.30 Disneytime. Clips from classic Disney films, including Fantasis. Lady and the Tramp, and Chip 'n' Dale, introduced by Phillip Schofield. Plus a look at Walt Disney World in Flonda. 4.10 Jim'll Fix It for Christmas. Small children brave the smoke from Sir Jimmy Savile's cigars to seize the chance of making their dreams come true

4.55 Final Score. Sports news presented by Reiph Dellor

5.10 News with Chris Lowe. Weather 5.25 The Russ Abbot Christmas Show. Russ Abbot turns up as an overweight Peter Pan teaching Wendy to fly and starring in the musical story of Hans Christian Anderson. With all the usual characters and support from Les Dennis and Bella Emberg.

6.05 Film: Back to the Future (1985). (Ceefax) See Television Film Choice for Christmas on page 14



8.00 Bergerac Christmas Special: There for the Picking. As Jim Bergerac (John Nettles) has retired with girlfnend Danielle (Therese Liotard) to a more leisurely life in Provence, how is Charlie Hungerlord (Terence Alaxander) going to worm his way into the plot of this feature-length edition of the Jersey detective series? Jersey police discover a cache of grenades in a consignment of

French connection: Thereas Liotard and John Nettles (8.00pm)

whisky. There seems to be a French connection, and Jim's old colleagues request his assistance. A feature-length special, with a new senes to follow early in 1991. (Ceetex) 9.40 Smith and Jones. Quirky comedy from Griff Rhys Jones and Mel Smith, striving valiantly to avoid all mention of Christmas. Instead they discuss Filipino wives, become involved with organised Weish crime in the shape of the "Tafia", and attend the funeral of a

DIY fanatic. (Ceefax) 10.10 News with Chris Lowe. (Ceefax) Weather 10.25 Film: Poltergeist II (1982). The Freeling family obey the fundamental rule of horror movies and do something no one in their right mind would even contemplate - they move back to the house where they were terrorised by supernatural forces in the original Poltergeist. The film follows the law of all sequels in felling to reproduce the success of the first, though seen in its own right it is fairly spooky. As before, the bettle is on between the family, with the help of an Indian shaman and a psychic researcher, and the spirit world, for the persona of little Carol Anna. Directed by Brian

11.55 Toto - Live in Paris. American rock stars Toto captured in a rare ive performance 12.50am Weather

8.00 English Towns, Alec Clifton-Taylor explores the Sussex town of

8.40 Film: Terzen Finds a Sont (1939, b/w). The only survivor of a plane creen near Tarzen's home is a baby boy, crying out for warmth and halo. Tarzan and Jane decide to take him as their own and raise him according to the ways of the jungle. Johnny Wersmuder stars as the age man and Mauraen O'Sullivan as Jana in one of the better Tarzen movies. Directed by Richard Thorpe 10.00 Films Summer Stock (1960). Engaging musical about a farmer's

stace-struck sister who invites a theatre troupe to take over the bem for rehearsals. She soon gets the bug for performing and dreams of finding fame. Staming Judy Garland, Gens Kelly and Phil Silvers, Directed by Charles Walters 11.55 How Are the Kids? The first of a series of ab programmes examining child exploitation around the world, set against the

feative background of the Christmas season 12.00 Greenclaws. Animated adventure for children (r) 12.15 The Unanswered Question: Leonard Bernstein at Harvard -Musical Phonology. His six Hervard University lectures are being repeated as a tribute to the celebrated conductor, composer and plants! Leonard Bernstein, who died in October. This one includes a complete performance of Mozart's Symphony No 40. (r) 2.00 The Transformers: The Butterfiles of Zagorsk, This first of three

programmes on the art of inspired teaching tells the story of children studying at the deal-blind school in Zagorsk, near Moscow. Though these children never stop "speaking", the only sound to be heard is that of fluttering fingers, hence the parallel with butterflies, (Ceefax) 3.00 Beethoven Symphonies. Roger Norrington conducts the London

Classical Players' performance of Basthoven's Symptony No 4 in

3.35 Laurel and Hardy in Becon Grabbers (b/w). See Television Film Choice for Christmas on page 14. 3.55 Beethoven Symphonies. The London Classical Players, conducted by David Norrington, perform on original instruments, which emphasise the sense of challenge to be found in

Beethoven's Symphony No 5 in C Minor, Op 67 .4.30 Cricket: Second Test. Highlights from the first day of the second Test between Australia and England in Melbourne 5.00 Le Nozze di Figaro. Simon Rattie conducta the Glyndebourne

production of Mozart's Le Nozzi di Figaro. This beautiful score is performed on period instruments by the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment in the Festival Opera production. The tale spins a web of intrigue, double-standards and infidelity, all of which take place when Figero, Count Almavive's valet, is due to many the Countess's meld Susanna. By the end of the action-filled day, all the members of the Count's household have had their lives and loves turned upside down. Simon Rattle discusses the effect of period instruments with fellow conductors Nicholas Kok and Charles Mackerras. Singers include Date Duesing, Joan Radgers, Felicity Palmer and Madenne Romolm 8.00 Film: Manon des Sources (1986). See Television Film Choice for

Christmas on page 14 9.50 A Life in Pieces: Partridge in a Pear Tree. Peter Cook as Sir Arthur Street-Greeting in a series of comic interviews with Ludovic Kennedy. Tonight's programme sees him choosing 12

gifts with a difference for the 12 days of Christmas



Memories of Clydeside: Tom Watson as Hughie (9.55pm)

9.55 The Ship. CHOICE: Bill Bryden's epic tribute to shipbuilding on the Clyde. performed in a converted angune shed as part of Glasgow's European City of Culture celebration, makes an effective translation to the small screen. The fluid structure of the piece, in which performers are brought together with the audience, lends itself to television presentation and viewers will have a more privileged view than many of those at the performance. Although the subject is big, many of show's scenes are small and intimate, involving only a few characters, and this, too, works to television's advantage. The Ship offers a tapestry rather than a narrative, weaving together various strands which make up the community and its culture. Work, and the pride and insecurity that goes with it, is only part of a landscape that takes in the pub, the wash day and the clance half and is socially split between Catholics and

11.35 Film: Suspicion (1941, b/w). (Ceefax) See Television Film Choice for Chiermas on page 14 1.10em Weather

6.00 TV-em 9.25 Christmas Duckula. The duck from Transylvania finds himself in outer space. With the voice of David Jason 9.50 T-Bag's Christmas Ding-Dong starring Glanda Jackson and Georgina

Hale 10.20 Daffy Duck (r) 10.35 Film: Candleshoe (1977) starring David Niven, Leo McKern, Jodie Foster and Helen Hayes Harry Bundage, en English con artist, attempts to pass off 14-year-old tomboy, Casey Brown, as an heiress. Niven lans will enjoy his performance as the butler but there is little else to get excited about. Directed by Norman Tokar

12.25 News with Nicholas Owen Weather 12.30 Film: Return to Oz (1985). See Television Film Choice for Christmas on page 14

2.30 Beatrix Potter: The Tale of Little Pig Robinson, Dawn French, Jennifer Saunders, Timothy Spatt and Thora Hird star in a delightful dramatisation of the Beatrix Potter story



A fetching heroine: Polly Walker as Lorna Doone (3.30pm)

3.20 Film: Loma Doone (1990). • CHOICE: Swarting mists and galloping horses greet a new version of R.D. Blackmore's classic remance which is strongly enough cast to be able to use players of the quality of Robert Stephens and Kenneth Haigh in cameo roles. The excellent Billie Whitelaw is rather more prominent and Sean Bean's Carver Doone is a dashingly handsome villain. So much so that Clive Owen's John Ridd is a mite upstaged, but Polly Walker is a fetching Lornal Matthew Jacobs's screenplay plays down the 17th century political background and represents the Ridd-Doone conflict as a feud in a Hotlywood western, complete with climactic shoot-out. Bleak and wintry locations emphasise the darker aspects of the story but younger viewers will be reassured by a denouement an which the forces of good are clearly seem to triumph. The motture of accents, with mummerset alongside hints of Scottish and Insh, can be a little jaming (Oracle)

5.15 News with Nicholas Owen. Sport and weather 5.30 The Krypton Factor Special. Television's toughest guiz gets the festive treatment with celebrities from The Bill, Emmerdale, Coronation Street and Brookside taking part in the competition of brawn and brain. (Oracle)

6.00 Christmas Cluedo. Viewers get the chance to play detective in this television version of the popular board came. Celebrities in the studio cross-examine the suspects in an attempt to ascertain the murderer, the weapon and the room in which the deed took place. Guests include Ian Lavender, Derek Nimmo, Kate O'Mara and

6.45 This is Your Life. An extended version of the show in which Michael Aspel surprises another lamous face in an edition that will bring back memories of hilanous Christmases of days gone by 7.30 Coronation Street. (Oracle)

8.00 Film: Dirty Dancing (1987). (Oracle) See Television Film Choice on 9.50 The Bill: Safe As Houses. Supergrass Lennie Powell laps up the

comfort of police protection from the Sun Hill officers and decides to offer them information. (Oracle) 10.20 News with Nicholas Owen Weather 10.30 Film; Police Academy 2: Their First Assignment (1985) starring

Steve Guttenberg, Bubba Smith and College Camp. More adventures of the trainee cops. Inane slapstick comedy that was even worse than the first one but proved extremely popular at the box office Directed by Jerry Paris. (Oracle) 12.10am Film: The Return of the Seven (1966) staming Yul Brynner,

Robert Fuller and Warren Oates. Six more gun fighters are recruited by Yul Brynner and storm a Mexican town to set free a friend who is being held by marauding outlaws. Uninspired attempt to cash in on one of the cinema's most celebrated westerns Directed by Burt Kennedy Followed by News headlines 2.00 Film: Robbery under Arms (1985) stamp. Sam Neil, Christopher Cummins and Steven Vidler. Two brothers are ordered to meet their father, an Englishman transported to New South Wales after being convicted of armed robbery. While there, they encounter his leader, notonous Captain Starlight, the bushranger. Directed by Ken Hannam and Donald Crombie

4.00 America's Top Ten. A look at the top ten acts of the Sixties 4.30 Film: The Pickwick Papers (1985). Feature-length cartoon version -- of the Dickens classic directed by Warwick Gilbert 5.55 ITN Morning News with Phil Roman. Ends at 6.00

6.00 Bobby Jones Gospel. The best of American gospel music from Nashville, Tennessee (r) 6.30 The Art of Landscape. Scenes of the natural world set to soothing music 7.00 All's Special Day. Macician Ali Bongo entertains (r) 7.30 Kaboodle. Two stories, one about a horse-mad little girl who ends up in an unusual place, the other about a little boy who cannot get rid of his hiccups

8.00 The Christmas Tree Train. Cartoon (r) 8.25 Ric. Cartoon 8.30 The Turkey Caper 9.00 Channel 4 Racing: The Morning Line 9.15 Countdown Masters 9.25 Sesame Street. Educational fun for pre-school children 10.25 Batman and Robin (b/w), Episode three

10.50 lbize - A Short Film About Chilling. Ibize has one of the liveliest club scenes in Europe. This film looks at the time when 500 British revellers went to libra for the start of the season, enjoying wild perty nights, and "chilling" during the daytime (r) 11.30 Torry Jacklin's Pro-Celebrity Golf Challenge. New series with

professional golfers Sam Torrence and Ronan Reflerty teaming up

with sportamen and entertainers for the Whyte & Mackay Scotch

Trophy. From Le Touquet snooker ace Dennis Taylor partners Torrance against Rafferty and entertainer Bruce Forsyth 12.35 Channel Racing from Kempton Park, Live coverage of the 12.45. 1.15, 1.45, 2.20 (King George VI Rank Chase) and 2.50 races 3.10 Animations. Western from Hungary and Petronella from the United

3.30 Film: International House (1933, b/w). See Television Film Choice for Christmas on page 14 4.50 News summary and weather

4.55 Facrie Tale Theatre: The Princess Who Had Never Laughed. Stamma Ellen Barkin, Howle Mandell and Howard Hessemen.

(Teletext) 5.55 The Further Adventures of Billy the Fieh

6.00 The Wonder Years. Amencan comedy about a young boy prowing up in the Staties (r) 6.30 Tonight with Jonathan Ross. The quests are actor Jeff Goldblum and comedian Pete McCarthy

7.00 Padre Pablo. A portrait of Canadian Fr Harvey Steels who is venerated by millions of Latin Americans who know him as "Padre Pablo". The chain-smoking, whisky-drinking Roman Catholic firebrand has made enemies - and not just because of his unconventional litestyle. In the Dominican Republic and Panama he has helped working people to establish credit unions and marketing cooperatives, in so doing helped to give the poor more power over their economic future. Now aged 79, he talks of the opposition he encountered from the Catholic Church, the Panama-based co-op training school for the whole of Latin America which stands as the realisation of his dreams. (Teletext)

8.00 Brookside. Down-to-earth Liverpool soap. (Teletext) 8.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show, Celebrities turn out to pay their respects to one of America's most popular chat show hosts of the moment. Presented by Bob Hope, this musical extravaganza features Roseanne Barr, Whoopi Goldberg, M C Hammer, Lity Tomén and James Earl Jones. Even first lady Barbara Bush appears on video to sing Oprah's praises



Portrait of a composer under strees: Tchalicovsky (9.25pm)

9.25 Tchaškovsky - Fate. CHOICE: Christopher Nupen concludes his "musical biography" by picking up the story at the composition of the Fourth Symphony in 1878 and taking it through to the composer's death 15 years later. As in his earlier film, Tchaikovsky's Women, Nupen's approach is unpretentious and accessible and largely allows the subject to speak for himself through his letters and his music, with only a light critical gloss. Played by the Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra under Vladimir Ashkenazy, the music is smoothly integrated into the narrative and never used simply to fill it out. Still photographs indicate how quickly Tchaikovsky aged and the letters reveal a continual fear of creative decline. The main works of his later period, the three final symphonies and Manfred, demonstrate that, on the contrary, his creative powers were

11.00 Film: Requiem for Dominic (1990). See Television Film Choice for Christmas on page 14 12.40am Dancedaza. Recorded at the Brixton Academy, the hottest

dance, hip-hop and rap acts around 1.40 The Other Side of Gerry Sadowitz. Brusque cornedian Gerry Sedowitz concludes his alternative guide to the art of the close-up

CENTRAL * As Landon except: 2.00sm Film: Screen of the Wort 3.20 Profile 3.30-4.00 CinemAttrico-

Starte: 6.00em Early Morning 9.25 Sesame Street 10.25 The Adventures of Batmen and - the Beanstalk 11.45 Winter Tate 11.50 Potol
- Y Own 12.15 Stot Mexitum 12.35 Channel 4 Recing from Kempton Park 3.10 Film: It's A Giff' 4.30 Stot 23 5.20 Brookside 5.50 Newyddion 5.00 Panto'r Wyl 7.45 Ffinlandial 8.20 Einan 9.00 Dai Ar Y Piste 10.00 Nigel Kennedy Plays Bruch 10.45 Billy the Figh

News 6.15 Disney Carbon 6.25 No 1 Christmas Special 7.00 Apples in Winter 8.00 Faces and Pages 9.00 News 9.15 The Litac Bus 10.40 Film: Resemp Account 12.15am News 12.25 Close

Midnight-7.05am Test Match

the second Test

6.55em Weather and News

Christie)

8.30 News

Headlines (FM only)

7.00 Christmas in Paris: Perotin

7.35 Morning Concert: Rossini

Special (MW only): Australia v

England, Commentary from

(Sederunt principes: Hilliard

Ensemble): M-A Charpentier

(in nativitatem domine nostri

Arts Flonssants under William

(String Soneta No 6 in D: Berlin PO under von Karajan);

di Capua (O Sole mio: ECO

under Edoardo Müller, with

D. Scenatti (Sonata in B minor.

piano); Mozart (Concerto in C.

K 299: Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields under Neville

Montreux, flute, Osien Ellis,

Oftenbach, Five Sonos (Brono

Lantante, barrtone, Marc

Rosenthal (Pittsburgh SO

Sharpe. Mozart (Exultate

jubilate. K 165: Academy of

Hogwood, with Emma Kirkby, soprano); Ameu (Wind

Quantel); Prokošev (Peter and

the Wolf, Op 67: SNO under

Prokofiev, narrator); Bach, arr

Desiring: Myra Hees, piano);

Heyon Orchestra under Adam

Philirermonic Orchestra under

Scottish Symptony Orchestra

under Gibson, plays Wagner (Overture, Die Meistersinger;

Siegmed loys); Strauss (Four

Last Songs); Strauss (Don Juan; Selome, Final Scene),

1.05 Smetana String Guartet, with

incl 12.10pm Interval Reading

Haydin (Symphony No 104,

London: Austro-Hungarran

Fischert, Saint-Saens, arr

Glennie (Introduction and

Wordsworth, with Evelyn

Glennie, percusaion) 11.20 Jessye Norman, with the BBC

Rondo caonccioso: New

Hess (Jesu, Joy of Man's

José Carreras, tenor);

K 87: Vlademir Horowitz.

Marriner, with Claude

8.35 Composers of the Week:

Durand, piano); Gaité

under André Previn)

Ancient Music under

Quintet: Flanders Wind

Neeme Järvi, with Lina

pensienne, arr Manual

9.35 Midweek Choice with Susan

Jesu Christi canticum: Les

Melbourne on the first day of



Clock and degger: Toyah Willow as Miss Scarlett (left) and Kate O'Mara as Mrs Peecock (ITV, 6.00pm)

Moontighting 10.30 Love at First Sight 11.00 Cricket Highlights 12.00 Cricket. The Ashes Tour. England v Australia. Live coverage of

 Via the Astra satelika News on the nour. Dayane 9.30 Newstone 10.30 Beyond 2000 11,30 Rawaw 90 - The Povals 1,30pm NBC Today, Part One 2.30 NBC Today 3.30 Review 90 - The Royels 4.30 Beyond 2000 5.00 Live at Five 6.30 Newshine 7.30 imemational Business Report 8.30 Review '90 - The Royals 10.30 Newstre 11.30 NBC Nightly News 12.30am Newstre 1.30 NBC Nightly Naws 2.30 Review 90 - The Royals 3.30 Beyond 2000 4.30 Newsine 5.30

SKY NEWS Via the Marco Polo satelita. 6,00am Sunnaa 6.30 Beyond 2000 9.00 Dayline 9,30 Newstine 10,30 Beyond 2000 11.30 Review '90 - The Royals 1.30 Paris Dances Dragniller: The Pans Opers Ballet in performence 3.00 Berlicz - Sympnonie Fentestique 4.30 Beltse/Guld 7.30 La

 Vis the Autre natellits. 6.00em Showcese adeptation of Chanes Kingsley's novel

EUROSPORT O VID the Astra sete@te. 7 30em Beecost 8.30 Eurobics 9.00 Judo 9.30 Ascent of the Matternorn Documenta-Navirations 4.30 Surfing 5.00 Ica Stating 6.30 Eurosport News 7.00 Trans World Sport 8.00 Railying: A preview of the Pane-Daker Raily 9.00 Bosong 10.00 Cross

Country Stoing 11.00 Eurosport News 11.30

Carry On team are at the north-west frontier

12.00 The Wizard of Oz (1939): Judy

2.00pm The Purple People Easer (1988): A

4.00 Arthur 2 on the Rocks (1988): The

drunk, but happy, millionaire (Dudley Moore)

5.00 The Lady and the Highwayman

the Roundheads and the Cavaliers, Starring

(1988) Sweanoucking romance based on a

purple alten has a penchant for Fiftee rock

auring the time of the British Ray

Garrand tollows the yellow brick road

loses his fortune and has to get a job

Emma Samms and Other Read

love with his pray. Madeleine Stowe

creat are murbered by a garg of bears

(Rooney Dangerheid) catches up on the

education ne missed. Ends at 5.35.

SCREENSPORT

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7.00am Slung Pro Sia Your 8.00 los Hockey 10.00 Motor News 10.80 Hippodrome 11.00 Ice Hockey: USA v Soviet Union 1.00pm Tenom Bowling 1.30 Live Heartern Basket-ball Week (NB: The following schedule is subject to change; 4.00 High Five 4.30 World Superbike Championships 5.00 World Cup Figure Sketting 6.00 The Rothman's Cententry Snooker Challenge 8.00 Hearless Basketbell Week 10.30 Ice Hockey

Via the Astra satelina.

10.00 Carry On Up the Khyber (1968): The 6.00am Twenty-four hours of rock and pop

dedications from mambers of the Forces

Comedy Double Bill The Man from the Ministry, and at 1.30 The Navy Lark 2.00 A Merry Christmas from Manchester 3.00 Best of "A House in a Garden" 5.00 Gerald Herper. Boxing Day Selection 7.00 China Stuart and Friends at the piano 7.30 A Traditional Yorkshire anniversary of the birth of Thomas Hardy (r) 9.00 legal Ogden. The Organist Entertains 9.30 The Golden Years with Alan Keith 10.00 Ken Bruce 12.05em Henry Mencin: 1.00-4.00em Bill

stones and conversation with a lock ahead to the day's sport, incl 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 9.05 Take Five 10.25 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 10.40 Take Five 11.00 Sportscall Phone-in quiz. Tel: 0345 909 693 12.00 Sport on 5 with John Inverdale Pootball Berclays League Cricket Australia v England. The first day of the second Test in Melbourns Racing from Kempton Park 2.20 King George VI Rank Steeple Chase 5.30 Review of the Sourcing Year (r) 6.30 Tim Rice's Christmas Past:
Pert two 7 00 Sport Carry Simon's Christmas Tales for Children 7 15 Revolting Rhymes:
Roald Dahl's Cincerella 7 20 Whar's Wrong with Christman 7.35 The Last in the Present Sense (r) 8.00 Atto-Pop 9.00 Nightbeek 9.30 Earsnot, 10.00, 11.00 Sport 11.10 World Senses Diamonas Are a Gart's Best Friend 11.40 The World Today 11.55 World of Fatti 11.58-12.05am Sport

WORLD SERVICE 5.35 News in GMT 5.00em German Features 5.35 News in German Headines in English and Franch 5.47 Press Review 5.52 Seasonal Music 5.50 Washing and Travel Navis 6.00 Newscoask 6.30 Londres Matter 7.00 News 7.09 24 Hours News Summery and Financial News 7 30 Development 90 8,00 News 8,09 Words of Faith § 8 15 Unice Christman 9.00 News 9.09 Review of the British Press 9 16 Network UK 9.30 Hoty 10.01 Omntue 10.30 Jazz for the Asring 11.00 News 11.09 News Apout British 11.15 Country Style 11.30 Med Magazine 12.00 Newsrasi 12.15pm New Mass 12.35 Taxes from Water 12.45 Poems by Port 1.00 World News 1.09 24 Hours 1.30 Development 90 2.00 Name 2.05 And New, in Colour 2.30 Off the Shed Christmas Childre 2.45 Europe's World 3.00 Newsieer 3 15 Poems by Post 3.30 (ne Christmas Expenence 4.00 News 4.09 News) About Britain 4 15 BBC English 4.38 News in German 5.00 News 5.09 Looking Homewards | 5 15 Best of Littlerook 5,30 Londres Son 6 15 BBC English 6,30 News in German 8.00 News | 8.09 The World Today 8.25 Whyos of Farth 6.30 As agriment 9.01 Sports Roundup 9.15 The Complete Count 9.45 Recording of the Week 10.00 Newshout 11.08 News 11.05 Looking Homewards 11.15 Good Books 11.30 Multitrack 2: Top 20 of 1990 12.00 Newsclask 12.30am A State of Christman Soul 1.01 And Now, in Colour 1.30 Waveguide 1.40 Book Charge 1.45 The Farming World 2.00 News 2.09 Review of the British Press 2.15 Network UK 2.30 Assignment 3.00 News 8.09 News About Britain 3.15 The World Today 3.30 Hoax 4.00 Newsdark 4.50 The World Today 4.45 News and Proct Roview in German

LIFESTYLE

 Via the Astra satellite. 10.00em Everyday Workout 10.30 Search for Tomorrow 10.55 Cottee Bresk 17.00 We're Cooking Now 11.35 The Edge of Night 12.00 Sally Jessy Rachesl 12.50pm What's New 1.00 Great American Gemeshows 2.10 Dworce Court 2.30 in Search of Wildfile A.05 Great American Gameshows 5.20 Tes Brank 5.30 WKRP in Cincinnate 6.00 The Self-e-Veion Shopping Channel 8.00 JGTV 10.00 The Set-e-Vision Snopping Crannel 12.00 Setellite Julecox

maintained to the end

card magician. Ends at 1.55

8.00 Stakeout (1987): Richard Draykuse stars as the cop on the watch who take in THE MOVIE CHANNEL 10.00 Deep-Bang (1988) Alone at Christ-@ Via the Marco Polo sassilie. mas, a Los Angeles delective (Don Johnson) 12.00 Cut Man Caper: Two black police decides to investigate the murder of a officers investigate a sense of chetto policisman, and encounters a group of neo-1.25pm The Movie Show 11.45 Mad Max (1979) Future cop Max (Mail 2.00 The Tenger Trep (1955): Romanic

Gibson) vows revence when his write and Decisia Reynolds 1.30em Cutting Class (1988): A student 4.05 Welk Like a Man (1967): After being (Donoven Lettch) returns to school after a sped in a mental asytum to find himself 4.00 Back to School (1988): A millionaine

raised by woves, Howle Mandel must re-5.45 The Wolves of Willoughby Chase (1989): Stepheno Buecham stare as un evil

THE SPORTS CHANNEL

and dreams of becoming a writer

Via the Marco Polo estallis 1.25gm Sportspeak 1.30 The Sun Life Great Race 3.00 Rugoy League: St Hetens v Wigars, Ive 5.00 Supercross 6.00 Sportsdeak 8.30 American Wreating 7.30 Sportsdask 8.00 The Main Event: Scottish Football, Aberdson v St Mirren, Ive 10.00 Sportscienk 10.20 Motorsport Review 11,30 Recing Today 12.00 Sportedesk 12.30em

8.00 A Cry in the Dark (1989), (See

Television Film Choice for Chrisemas on

page 14) 10.10 Midnight Plun (1989): Robert De Niro

becomes evolved with the make, the FRI

and a rivel bounty hunter 12.30am Brighton Basch Memoirs (1986):

A Ned Simon cornectly about a young Jewish

boy (Blytne Denner) growing up in New York, with nothing on his mind but sex, beseball

2.25 Dragnet (1987): Den Aykroyd stars in

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11.00 Requem For Dominic 12.40 Dencedaze 1,40 The Other Side of Jerry Sadowcz Starte: 9.00em The Fluppy Dogs 9.50 Million Dollar Duck 11.20 Vincent and Me 1.00 News 1.05 Disney Cartoon 1.10 Files: Danny -- Champion of the World 2.55 Fiddler on the Root 6.00 The Angelus 6.01

the same and the s

3.10 Vintage Years: CHOICE: When scheduled some months ago, today's recording at Torteller playing. Strauss's Don Quaste with

the RPO under Beecham was just enother tribute to the virtuoso cellist. It has now become a mamorial occasion. It was the matching of this cellist, orchestra and conductor in 1947 (the year the recording was made) that launched the Frenchman's international career. Judge for vourself how right The Times obituary writer was last week to speak of the unrivaled empathy with which Tortaller

impersonated Carvantes's sad and courtly knight 4.00 Choral Evensong: Live from Westminster Abbey 5.00 Le nozze di Figaro: Glyndebourne Chorus under David Angus; Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment under Simon Rattle performs Mozart's opera to a libretto by Lorenzo da Ponte after the play by Besumerchais: Sung n Italian, With Dale Duesing.

bantone, as Figaro, and Joan Rodgers, soprano, as Susanna (simultaneous broedcast with 8.00 Landscape with Classical Rushs: The 18th-century poet and satinst Alexander Pope recorded himself as a friend of virtue and los to vice and folly. In Carey Harrison's dramatic feature, set in a house Pope thinks he knows, he is surrounded by a world

dominated by ohysical suffering, vicious settre and fantasy bordening on machess. With Sain Dastor 9.00 Celebrity Recital: The plants Altred Brendel plays Haydn (Sonata in G minor, H XVI 44); Brahms (Four Bellades, Op 10): Weber (Sonate in A flet, Op 39); Mendelssohn Variations sensuses):

Beethoven (Sonara in F minor, Op 57. Appassionata), incl 19.05 Interval Reading 11.00 Famaby Bress Ensemble performs Gles Fernelby, arr terness (Four Femally Fancies): Gordon Jacob (Changing Moods); Alan Bullard (Essay)

11.30 Composers of the Week Hendel (Concerto in B flat, Op 3 No 1; Funeral Anthem for Queen Caroline) (r) 11.55-7.05em Test Match Special (MW only): Australia v England. Commentary from Melbourne on the second day of the second Test

12:30-12:35am News (FM only)

Stereo on FM . 5.55cm Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Bristing; Weather 6.10 Protecte 6.50 Prayer for the 7.00 News 7.10 Cold Turkey: A **Eant-hearted miscellarry of** post-Christmas fare, 8.00 News, 6.55, 7.55 Weather 8.43 William: William and the Princess GoldBocks, by

Richmel Crompton 8.58 9.00 News 9.05 No Milk Today, the Street Has Gone Away: The residents of Herbert Street in Treherbert prepare for their twentieth annual holiday together in Spein (r) 9.35 Word Detectives:

 CHOICE: Although The Times's resident etymologist Philip Howard, is not consulted by Enc Robson as he minates with the leucographers, this newspaper provides vital source material. There's a computer which sitts The Times every week for new words. Sadiv, the only two quoted this morning are both literals: akespeare and admirat. Compilers of new dictionanes don't turn a har at microwaveable but microwaveability will have to

weit, unlike certain foodstuffs that achieve instant acceptance the moment they appear on the supermarket 10.00 News; Smash of the Day: I'm Sorry I'll Read That Again. The first of four classic comedies from the archives (r) -10.30 Morning Story: Life Without George, by Lynne Truss. Read by Michael Wittems

10.45 Daily Service (s) 11.00 News: Fer from the Medding Crowd: The Seeds of Love. The third of a sox-part dramatigation of Thomas Hardy's novel (s) 12.00 News; Something to Celebrate: Part 3: A personal journey from Greenbism to

Camprage 12.25pm Families and How to Survive Thom: Mothering and Paranoia, John Clease and psychiatrial Dr Robin-Skynner chacuss how relationships are formed, sustained and developed (3 of 6) (e) 12.55

1.00 News -

10.45 A Book At Bedtime: In My Wildest Dreams, by Lestie Thomas (10 of 12) (s) (r) 11.00 Looking Forward to the Past Robert Booth takes a lighthearted view of history (8) (f) 11.30 The Tingle Fector David Puttnam talks to Room Ray about the music that sends a Weather . .

shiver up his spine (s) (r) 12.00-12.30em News, Inc. 12.20 Weather 12.33-12.43 Shipping Forecast FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m;FN-97 6-99 8. Radio 2: PM88-90.2 Radio 3: 1215kHz/ 247m; FM-90-92.4. Radio 4: 198kHz/1515m;FM-92.4-94.6. Radio 5: 683kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. World Service: MW 648kHz/463m. Jazz FM 102.2 LBC: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. Capital:

1.10 News Quiz of the Year (s) (r)

1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping

2.00 News; With Great Pleasure:

3.00 News; Toad of Toad Half: A

Willows (r)

5.00 News

6.00 Six O'Clock News

CONTRACTOR

6.30 Counterpoint: General

7.00 News 7.05 The Archers

7.20 Today's the Day: The Two

4.30 Ad Lib: Robert Robinson talks

and ounters in Belfast (r)

musicals, including Gene

5.05 Smain' in the Rain: The stars

6.15 The Village: Senes focusing

on the iffe of a small rural

knowledge music quiz (s) (r)

the world of wreless (8) (r)

a Stage. Benind-the scenes at

the Globe Theatre before a

9.15 Kalaidoscopa: Ali (na Globa)

performance of Alan

Ayckbourn's Man of the

Moment (s) (r)

and Pock-Face. A Chinese

Robert Sandall looks at the

changing nature of the pop

inclustry over the past 30

story of an ugly sister and a

9.45 Even Grimmer Tales: Beauty

wicked stepmother

10.05 The Three-Minute Medium:

years (s)

riremetisation of Kenneth

Grafiame's The Wind in the

to a group of jooksys, bookses

of one at MGM's most popular

Kelly, recall memories of life

on the set (s) 5.50 Shipping Forecast and 5.55 Weather

The environmentalist Joosthon

Porritt selects his favounts

Forecast.

SKY ONE -

 Vie the Asers and Marco Polo serelities. 6.00em Chicket The Ashes Tour England v Australia Live coverage of the second Test from Malbourne 7,00 Chicket Highlights 7,30 The DJ Ker Show 8.40 Mrs Pepperpot, followed by Playabout 9 10 Jackgot 9.30 The Young Doctors 11.00 The Bord and the Begutitul 11:30 The Young and the Restless 12.30pm Sate of the Century 1.00 True Contaggions 1.80 Another World 2.15 Lowing 2.45 Wife of the Week 3.15 Bewitched 3.45 The DJ Kat Show, incl. Space 6.00 Family Ties 6.30 Sale of the Century 7 00 Love at First Signt 7 30 The

the second Test from Melbourne

SKY NEWS

News on the nour. Geoconos, Pert One 10.30 La Geoconos, Part Two: 11.30 Viveidi - The Four Seasons 12:30em Nevisine 1.30 NBC Nightly News 2,30 Aswew '90 - The Royals 3,30 Sayand

SKY MOVIES

12,30pm Gary Davies 4,00 Mark Goodler 7,30 The Christmes Concerts: Knebworth 90 10,30 FM Stereo 4.00am Steve Medden 7.00 Roger Royle 9.00 Kane Boyle 11.00 Desmond Carrington's Boong Day Party 1.00pm Vintage

6.00em World Service: Newedesk 6.30 News; All Thet: Citi Morgan's selection of music.

Teenage Mutant Hero Turties 5.00 Lost in Secret Video Show 8,00 Alien Nation 9,00

6.00am Survisa 6.30 Bayond 2000 9.00

2000 4:30 Newstine 5:30 Newstine

8.00 The Water Sables (1978): James Meson and Bornard Chobins star in the

RADIO 1 The Breaktast Snow 10.00 Simon Bales with Little Pros. Reporters Ned Walker and David Clayton attend Warwickshire's Rare Breeds Annual Show (r) Victor Lewis Smith 17,00-2,00am Boo Harns 7.45 Concerto: The guitarist John Williams talks to June Knox-Mawer about his diverse career (s) (r) 8,45 Tuning In: Michael Bentine with an in-depth analysis of

Flemmedia with Neight Flade

musical comedy starring Frank Sineira and

governess in 19th-century England

 Vie the Marco Poto satelite. 7.00em Twenty-two hours of reck and pop

9.30 Ascent of the Matternorn Documentary 11.00 Equestrianism 12.00 Euroocs 12.30pm 1990 Tennis Classics Mercence Open, Henri Lecome v Gusterno PerezRoigen 2.30 1990 Tennis Classics, Virginia Stims Tournament Monica Seles v Martina Navirations 4.30 Surfing 5.00 Ica Stating

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Josef Suk, viola, performs Janaček (Quartel No 1. Kreutzer Sonatar, Dvořák (String Quantet in E flat, Op 97) (r) 2.00 Record Review (r)

1.00pm News

edes driff

By JOHN O'LEARY; HIGHER EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

HEAD teachers have told the government that the final stage of the National Curriculum, for the 14-16 age group, should be delayed by at least a year. Key stage four, as the programmes are known, is due to start in September 1992,

In a statement today, the National Association of Head Teachers (NAHT) argues that the content of the curriculum should not be set in advance of decisions on A-levels and vocational courses for older pupils. Revised proposals on post-16 education are due for publication next

Families take to the road

Continued from page 1 meanwhile, was cancelling flights on domestic routes because fewer passengers than expected had turned up to buy shuttle tickets.

"Demand has been a great deal less than we expected," said a spokesman. "Perhaps it is the economic problem or the fact that the travel days are spread over a longer period than last year, but it is much quieter than we predicted."

Hardest hit was the Belfast shuttle for which BA had set aside 15,000 seats over the weekend. In the end only 10,000 tickets were sold - 3,000 fewer than last year and two wide-bodied jets were cancelled.

The shut down in London began at Friday lunchtime as offices closed early and staff headed home to complete their last minute shopping. By early evening many of the capital's pubs had shut and those attractions still open did little business. By late evening on Friday the roads in central London were empty.

On Saturday many suburban towns were packed with shoppers, many of whom appear to have realised at the last moment that they would have, after all, to buy the presents they had given willingly in better economic times.

Then early yesterday the first rush to the country began and the AA was reporting big queues in some areas as early as 7am as drivers tried to reach their destination in time for lunch. At midday the rush slowed slightly only to build up again in the afternoon.

Airport terminals, although reasonably thronged with people either going abroad on holiday or joining their families for the Christmas celebrations, were busy but with little overcrowding and few delays.

month. Adherence to the government's timetable will cause severe curriculum overload, NAHT says. It made a similar appeal before the introduction of the GCSE.

The association is to meet Kenneth Clarke, the education secretary, next month to press the case for a delay and give its views on A-level reform. David Hart the general secretary, said yesterday: "Ministers have made some important statements recently on the shape of vocational examinations in the sixth form. If they are working in this direction, and we wholly agree that they should, they must take on the implications for boys and girls going into the sixth form."

Tim Eggar, minister of state at the education department, has called for a new framework of vocational subjects as an alternative to the academic emphasis in sixth forms. Mr Clarke has also indicated that he will be seeking wider choice for pupils beyond the

age of 16. The School Examinations and Assessment Council has already proposed changes to A and ASlevels, and is discussing links between the two sets of examinations and those run by the Business and Technician Education Council. The NAHT's statement says: "The current consultation by the government on key stage four cannot and must not be seen in isolation from the whole of the debate on the future structure of 14-19 education."

A year would be the minimum delay required, according to the association, not least because otherwise the same pupils would have been the "guinea pigs" for the programmes introduced with key stage three.

The association has also told Mr Clarke of its concern that by requiring pupils to study more subjects with less class time, the present proposals from the National Curriculum Council will lead to a lowering of standards and a drop in numbers staying on after 16. In order to avoid crowding the curriculum, the NAHT proposes dividing subjects into main and subsidiary courses. English, mathematics, science and technology would be main subjects for all pupils. A modern language could be a main subject on its own or combined with another.

Subsidiary subjects would be allotted balf the classroom time, although some could be combined, for instance, to offer integrated study of the humanities or the arts. The association's aim is for one lifth of curriculum time to be available for subjects outside the directed formula. This could be used, for example, to study a second language, to reflect particular strengths or to include more vocational subjects.



speech. The five-minute address was recorded at Buckingham Palace and will be broadcast at 3pm tomorrow

Labour attacks threat of naval cuts

By MICHAEL EVANS

DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE government is heading for a damaging political clash over new Ministry of Defence proposals to cut the army to 100,000 trained soldiers and to close down at least two navai bases.

Opposition MPs said yesterday that they would demand a statement from Tom King, the defence secretary, after the Christmas recess, into the leaked plans that include the closure of Rosyth and Portland naval bases.

Gordon Brown, opposition trade and industry spokesman, whose constituency covers Rosyth, the naval base on the Firth of Forth, said: "I will tell the prime minister that any attempt to run down Rosyth, especially during this period of Gulf uncertainty, will be vigorously opposed."

The proposed cuts, part of the government's "options for change" defence review, have been included in a series of "impact reports" produced for central staff at the MoD, which has been carrying out the comprehensive review since the beginning of this year. Service chiefs and other key

figures had been asked to outline the impact on operational capabilities of a long list of suggested cuts. Apart from facilities such as air and navy bases, there is also a list of weapons systems earmarked for

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

Answers on page 14

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c. A satchet catch

b. A south-cast wind

a. A beater's terrier

Coarse calico

c. A switch-ring

c. A broad-brimmed hat

possible cancellation. Drawn up by Alan Clarke, the minister for defence procurement, the cuts have become known inside the ministry as "the duck shoot".

Senior service personnel are now alarmed at the huge potential cuts in facilities and equipment to balance the reduced defence budget over the next five years. Of greatest concern is the effect on Operation Granby in the Gulf, where 35,000 service personnel are committed, and fears over the possibility of an anti-West regime coming to power in the Soviet Union. They believe that extensive cuts at this stage would be

premature. However, senior ministry sources emphasised yesterday that the review could not be "put on hold" until the Gulf conflict was resolved, unless the government injected at least £1 billion into the defence budget. The ministry said yesterday that the proposals were merely part of the overall analysis of defence requirements for the future. "There are no decisions

yet," one official said. Defence sources indicated that was unlikely that the entire Rosyth facility would be closed down. The base hosts the navy's minehunters and fishery protection vessels, as well as a privately managed dockyard, which refits the navy's nuclear submarines. Sources said the ministry could not close the dockyard but the naval base would be more vulnerable. "The minehunters and fishery protection vessels could be sent somewhere else," a source

Mr Brown said that he would be writing to John Major and to Mr King "to rule out the alarming. wrong-headed and crass attempt to run down Rosyth". He said: "With 5,000 employees at the dockyard and 2,000 at the naval base, Rosyth is Scotland's biggest single industrial concern. Any randown would be destructive to the Scottish economy." The government is bound to be sensitive to his remarks.

A big question mark hangs over the future of Portland in Dorset, which is used as a "work-up" training base for surface ships which have been in refit.

Tank replacement, page 4

Britain asks allies for ammunition

Continued from page 1 -

from the gunner batteries equipped with M109 and M110 artillery, and the heavy gun unit equipped with the latest multiple launch rocket system. To maintain a constant artillery barrage, the amprecunits should be careble of firing up to 60,000 rounds a

Britain's 203mm M110 gun has previously been associated with nuclear-tipped shells. So British conventional stocks for this huge

gun are limited. Germany, The Netherlands and Belgium have bigger stocks of the non-nuclear shells. America has already been helping with extra supplies. Germany and The Netherlands have agreed to supply ammunition, but each will be charging the Ministry of Defence.

The Dutch government has been happy to acknowledge that it is supplying ammunition for Britain's effort in the Gulf. But British sources said the German govern-

ment was "nervous" about confirming supplies, because ammunition was being handed over under treaty obligations normally associated with military exercises in Germany.

Ammunition supplies could have become a key factor had the the Falklands conflict in 1982 lasted much longer. There were reports at the time that some units were down to their last supplies when Argentine troops surrendered.

Lighter living replaces American excess

From Charles Bremner IN NEW YORK

WALL Street may have crashed in 1987, but Christmas 1990 will go down in the history of American shopping as the true end of the yuppie era. From Beverly Hills to Fifth Avenue, and throughout the 2,000-odd miles of consumerland between, it has been a season the shopkeepers want to forget. With recession biting and war looming, chastened younger Americans have shunned the expensive trappings they embraced in the 1980s, forcing most stores to hold their January sales before Christmas.

"We are in a bunker here," said an anguished assistant at a halfempty Bergdorf Goodman, the ritziest of New York's department stores. Across the Hudson in the prosperous New Jersey suburb of Paramus, an Italian clothes boutique pleaded for custom, promising that no reasonable offer would be refused. Not even the imminent arrival of a new national luxury tax, to be imposed from next month, has done much to

spur indulgence. But the surest proof of the shift in the consuming mood has been the conversion of purveyors of some of the glossiest icons of the Reagan era. Take Ann Taylor, the women's clothing chain whose sleek suits were standard equipment for climbing the corporate ladder. Yesterday the firm placed full-page advertisements in The New York Times with what sounded curiously like a statement of remorse: "What is the use of living if it is not to make this world better for those who live in it after we are gone?"

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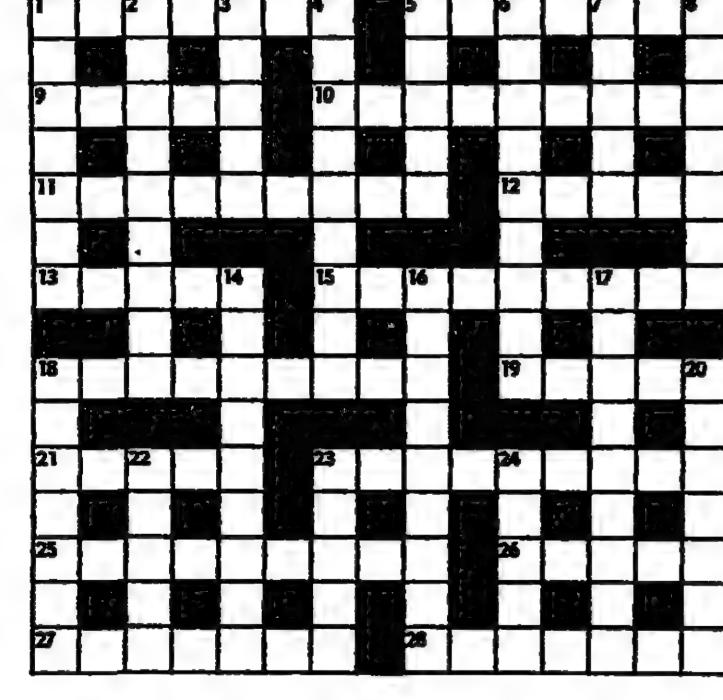
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Then there is the case of Sharper Image, the chain specialising in expensive adult plathings and gadgets. "The Sharper Image is over," Richard Thalheimer, the owner, proclaimed last week after laying off 10 per cent of his staff, holding his first sale and announcing a new creed. He had, he said repented his misplaced enthusiasm for the spirit of excess. The chain will no longer sell such items as \$2,000 (£1,060) massage chairs and jet-fighter simulators. From now on, Mr Thalheimer said, all the firm's products would be packaged in an "environmentally correct" manner.

The shift in consumer taste has sent the image-makers of Madison Avenue into overdrive helping brands to "redefine their values". as they put it, to tune in to the frugal nineties. "Living lightly" is the new leitmotiv of the marketing men, producing a genre of sombre commercials in which earnest people explain in harrowed tones their lives in a head-on collision. In its new advertisements, General Motors appears to be appealing for customers to keep its employees in their jobs. The cars are nowhere to be seen.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,485



ACROSS

- 1 Trains groups of swimmers (7). 5 Show animal kept outside with no covering (7).
- 9 A deliberate lighting offence (5). 16 Bat on, mind, though in trouble, to appear game (9). 11 One who makes a stand for a
- сапору (9). 12 A scientist may be put up (5). 13 Sound fish to rear (5). 15 This tradesman is modern, sen-
- sible, and not heartless (9). 18 Those who are patronising must score badly (9). 19 Thin, and a little light (5).
- 21 The engagement ring (5). 23 Lacking a dot (9). 25 He hasn't a hope! (9).
- 26 Penny-pincher given a thousand rise possibly (5).

PARKER . DUOFOLD

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 18,484 will appear next Saturday. The 5 winners will receive a Duofold fountain pen supplied by Parker

27 Italian church fantasy (7). 28 Remains unpaid after note is rejected (7).

1 A temperamental photographer 2 Right underlying man's studies

of the past (9). 3 A cat doesn't weigh much (5). 4 Means a vehicle has to reverse to make ascent (9).

5 Plain-clothes men accompanying Her Majesty get a drink (5). 6 Clever English person keeping all in order (9).

7 Scoffed in a way that's valued 8 Most anxious to obtain quarters in temporary accommodation

14 Fellow turned up at one on callup (9). 16 Almost fritter away liquid assets in Lakeland (4.5). 17 Former top journalist being

squeezed out (9). 18 This strikes a bell for many a drinker (7). 20 Stock book (7).

22 Some upkeep! Some place! (5). 23 Compel the dunderhead to split 24 Roman twin seen about with Greek characters (5),

> Jumbo crossword, page 12 Sports crossword, page 22

Eastern parts of England will start cloudy with showers but should become mostly dry with sunny spells. Southern and western parts of England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland will have a day of sunny intervals and scattered showers, heavy in places with some snow on high ground in the North. It will feel rather cold in the fresh winds. Outlook: mostly wet and windy, brighter at times in the North.

ABROAD MEDDAY: 1-thunder: d-drizzle, fg-log, s-eur; si-sleet, sm-enow, f-teir, c-cloud, r-rein Brustale Budapat B Aires* Caro Cape Tri Nice
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 denotes Saturday's figures are latest gradable. LONDON Yesperday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 9C (48F); mm 6 pm to 6 am, 9C (48F). Humany 6 pm, 85 per cent. Rem. 24hr to 6 pm, trace. Sun. 24 hr to 6 pre, 0.7 hr Ber, meen see level, 5 pm, 1,013-8 milibers, felling. Seturday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 11C (52F); ran 6 pm to 6 am, 11C (52F). Humidily 6 pm, 77 per cent. Rem. 24hr to 6 pm, trace; Sun. 24 hr to 6

pm, All Ber, meen see level, 6 pm, 1,018.4 militars, nung. 1,000 militars-28.53m. C London (written N & S Circs)......... 731 M-ways/reads M4-M1 HIGHEST & LOWEST Saturday: Highest day lemp. Kinloss, Monty Firth, 14C (57F), lowest day max. Estimatemut, Duration and Galloway, 5C (41F) highest rantall: Estimatemur, 0.94 m; highest suretime. Cromer, Nortalk, 39 lv. National meterways 737

0.69 m. Sun: 24 ftr to 6 pm. 3 ftrs.

MANCHESTER -Yesterday: Temp max 8 am to 6 pm, 12C (54F); mm 6 pm to 6 am, 8C (46F). Rem. 24hr to 6 pm, 0-01 in. Sun. 24 hr to 6 pm, mil. GLASGOW Yesterday:Temp: max 6 um to 6 pm, 10C (50F); man 6 pm to 5 am, 5C (41F). Rean: 24hr to 6 pm.

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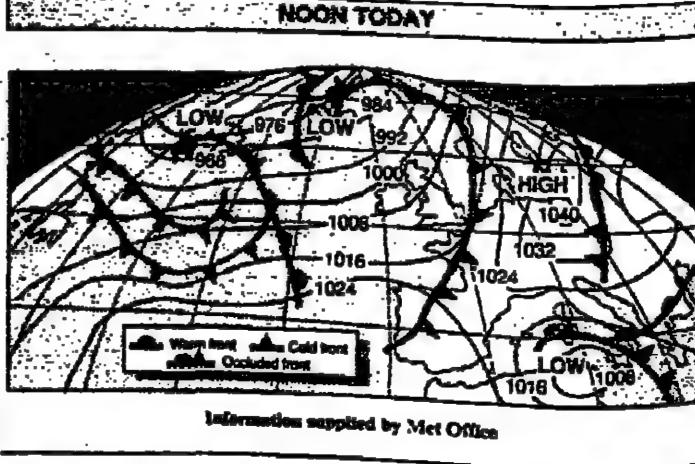
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From PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

BRITISH Aerospace is understood to be considering a counter-offer for De Havilland, the loss-making Canadian subsidiary of Boeing that specialises in short-haul passenger aircraft

BAe's interest is likely to centre on De Havilland's technical expertise in short takeoff and landing for possible incorporation in its own commuter aircraft. De Havilland makes Dash8-100 and larger Dash8-300 quiet turbo-prop airliners. BAe makes the successful BAe 146 family of quiet jet airliners.

A BAe spokesman confirmed last night the company was "looking at the situation with interest" but refused to comment further.

In July, Boeing signed a letter of intent to sell the lossmaking aircraft manufacturer to Avions de Transport Regional (ATR), a consortium of French and Italian planemakers, Aeritalia and Aérospatiale, but no deal has yet been announced.

A Boeing spokesman said yesterday: "We have an exclusivity deal with ATR which would prevent us from entering into any other discussions until the ATR talks are concluded. I cannot say what may or may not be going on in terms of contacts between our-

selves and British Aerospace." De Havilland has not made a profit since the early 1980s, although Boeing expects it to approach breakeven soon.

The Canadian company became part of Hawker Siddeley during the forced mergers of British aircraft makers 30 years ago but was sold to the Canadian government in 1974. Boeing bought it for about US\$130 million in 1986.

Boeing invested \$450 million in management and reand development during its four-year ownership, lifting employment from

4,300 to 6,300. Since it started production in December 1984, the Dash8-100 has sold 189 and De Havilland has orders for a further 47. The besic model costs \$8.65 million. The \$10.8 Dash8-300, which into production planes and has orders for a able to make five planes a month, which means it has sufficient work for more than the next two years.

Power float deliveries

THE Post Office received a further 530,000 letters to applicants for shares in the privatised electricity distribution companies on Saturday and Sunday and said it would do its utmost to deliver as many as possible today. This would enable shareholders to sell the small number of shares they have been allocated, although the Stock Exchange will effectively operate only in the

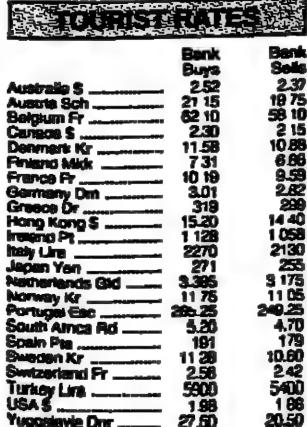
morning. Thus far, the Post Office says it has received 12.3 million letters for electricity share applicants. A further 300,000 may be outstanding.

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND US dollar 1.8840 (-0.0560)

W German mark 2.8854 (-0.0045) Exchange index 92.8 (-07)

STOCK MARKET FT 30 Share 1688.4 (-12.8) FT-SE 100 2164.4 (-4.0) **New York Dow Jones** 2633.66 (+39.85) Tokyo Nikkei Avge 24119.6 (-229 9)



Paies for small denomination bank only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC Different Tales apply to travellers' cheques. Fietal Price Index: 130.0 (November)

Coup at TVS prompted by franchise fear

By COLIN CAMPBELL

FEAR that TVS Entertainment could lose its television franchise because management was failing to concentrate on the right priorities has led to a pre-Christmas boardroom coup.

immediate effect, were instides Eaux and Canal Plus, TVS needs". which own 24 per cent of TVS shares, acting with City institutions led by Schroders, the merchant bank.

They include a new chairman and reassigned roles, and have been greeted by City analysts as "positive".

Rudolph Agnew, former chairman of Consolidated Gold Fields and successful defender in 1989 of Britain's then record takeover bid from Minorco, comes in as executive chairman.

been removed from his group sponsible for the British tele- April. vision interests. The French investors have promised to back the franchise application. Mr Gatward has been

spending up to half his time in America, where the group has been struggling to restore MTM, the financially weak Gold director and friend of Mr programme-making group it Agnew, and Baroness Pamela bought for £188 million in Sharples resigned as non-

new products but has recently shows to a new cable station.

Mr Agnew was said by a

He replaces Lord Boston of Faversham, who resigned after a 12-hour board meeting man through and through on Friday.

City institutions and the two significant French shareholders had been concerned for some months by the poor financial performance of TVS and apparent lack of corporate direction. They felt too much manage-

ment time was seemingly spent on MTM when priority should have been devoted in James Gatward, who has Britain to putting TVS in shape to retain its franchise, chief executive role, will be re- for which it must reapply in TVS has performed badly

on the stock market. The shares have oscillated between 184p and 38p. They closed at 75p on Friday. Matters came to a head after John Elton, a former Cons- on retaining the franchise."

executive directors ten days After successes with tele- ago. All parties agreed not to attention.

vision series such as Hill make a public statement, and Street Bhues, MTM has had TVS still refuses to disclose difficulty selling some of its the reasons. Mr Elton has now made public that he lost faith sold many of its old comedy in Mr Gatward's executive

The departure of Mr colleague to be "a fighter, a Gatward, whose salary last man with style and leadership year was £250,000, was dis-The changes, which take qualities, a person with the cussed but under a comtough business experience in promise worked out by key gated by Compagnie Générale both Britain and America that non-executives he will con-

TVS said he is "a television and because of the importance attached to the retention of the franchise, "Mr Gatward will devote all his attention to leading the franchise team". A suggestion that Mr Elton

chairman has been ruled out as "highly unlikely", Mr Agnew, emphasising that there was "no crisis" at TVS, said he would be an executive chairman. He prom-

might rejoin TVS as deputy

ised "to devote all my energies in the short term to getting TVS in the right corporate shape to fight for and win the retention of its franchise". He added: "The group's priorities are to beef up its

corporate entity and for everybody to concentrate the mind He declined to discuss MTM's future, though its continuing drain on group fortunes is likely to receive early

Garston chief in jail

By Neil Bennett, banking correspondent

hurst, the collapsed investment group, is spending Christmas in prison after pleading guilty to dishonestly conspiring to defraud

formally pleaded guilty to one NFMC offered investors up to it will not pay for further legal charge of dishonestly conspir- £1.5 million in compensation, costs, which already total ing to defraud the investors in But it refused to compensate £180,000. Garston Amhurst at a prelimi- investors who had dealt with Old Bailey last week. He was remanded in custody in Brixton Prison until January 11. Mr Wright bad previously

been remanded on bail of £100,000. Three of his codirectors, James Krekis, Stephen Woodhouse and Gordon Davies, were released on bail until the trial begins.

nancial Management Corpor-

management buyouts and

the record levels in 1989, ac-

cording to preliminary figures

released by the Centre for

Deals worth £3.05 billion

Management Buyout Research.

were completed this year,

against £7.47 billion last year.

The decline was largely due to

the sharp fall in huge transac-

tions. There were only four

deals of over £100 million in

counted for £2.5 billion of the

total down from £3.88 billion

Management buyouts ac-

1990, against ten in 1989.

than 50 per cent this year from £550 million.

wards the investors' legal bills. Garston was a tied agent of

Garston before December cent to people who could not prove they thought they were buying an NFMC product. This offer was rejected by the Garston Amburst Investor Protection Group, which continued to fight for a higher

award. Last month, NFMC offered a further £260,000, Meanwhile, National Fi- including part payments to earlier investors. The offer ation, the life assurer owned was conditional on acceptance by TSB Group, has withdrawn by all the investors. The part of its offer to the 180 in- protection group continued to said its offer was fair.

ment buy-ins was more dra-

At the lower end of the

market, buyouts and buy-ins

year at 221 deals.

1989 to 105 this year.

Value of buyout

deals drops 50%

By JONATHAN PRYNN

THE value of completed last year. The fall in manage-

buy-ins has fallen by more matic, from £3.59 billion to

THE chief of Garston Am- vestors who lost £4 million in press for a higher offer. Now Garston's collapse. It has also NFMC's solicitors have withrefused to pay any more to- drawn the higher offer and stopped all payments to investors. Until now the company NFMC, and many investors has paid out only £360,000 to thought they were buying 30 of Garston's victims. Diccon Wright, aged 28, NFMC products. In June, NFMC has also told investors

"Their offer leaves every-

1987, and offered only 80 per Tomasina Tarling, head of the protection group. "They are not paying interest and they are putting most people down to 80 per cent. They simply won't listen." The investor protection

> group has taken up their case with Lautro, the life assurance regulatory group, which has promised to arrange a meeting with Paul Taylor, NFMC's managing director. A spokesman for NFMC

amounted to £9.1 million on UK may amend

Heathrow rules By HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

Heathrow may be amended to American Airlines to take over routes operated by trou- the rump of TWA. bled Pan Am and TWA.

increased markedly. Overall, the total volume of deals rose 7 per cent from 503 to 540. In the second half, the number of ficials, the transport departmanagement buyouts was up a ment hinted that if they third on the same period last However, management pleted, dispensation might be buy-ins fell after five years of given, treating United and rapid growth, from 144 in American as replacements.

The agreement could however, be too late to save cash-Mega-deals' demise, page 20 starved Pan Am, which is once it has permission.

BRITAIN has informally in- teetering on the brink of dicated that rules preventing collapse and urgently needs new airlines from using the £205 million United is prepared to pay for its Heathallow United Airlines and row operations. The rest of the girline could then merge with

Among the concessions In briefings with US of Britain wants in return from the Americans is the right for a second British carrier to be waited until mid-January for allowed to fly across the the legal process to be com- Atlantic from Heathrow in competition with United and America. That would almost certainly let in British Midland, which hopes to begin its own transatianue operations

Dangerous liaisons at the office

By PHILIP BASSETT INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

HAVE a good time at the pre-Christmas office party? Meet anyone special? Tempted to take it further? Be careful: office affairs can seriously damage if not your health (though probably that too), then at least your business or your own prospects, according to a stern warning today from the Institute of Directors.

"I let myself into the office late one evening to collect some papers," the loD's magazine quotes one anonymous junior marketing manager as saying, "and found my boss heavily engrossed with a senior member of the computing department. I was scared out of my wits. I hadn't done anything wrong, but I thought if they saw me it would not only be highly embarrassing, it also wouldn't

do much for my career prospects." Fortunately, this unwilling peeping Tom was able to make his excuses to himself, and leave without being spotted. Office affairs "can cause serious

disruption and damage to businesses", the loD says. But it claims companies often turn a blind eye to the hazards. Of 50 companies questioned by the IoD's Director magazine, only two bad a formal policy on romance among their staff, including disciplinary action against transgressors. Both companies,

though, insist on anonymity. Mark Parker, personnel manager at BAT, says the issue is "too complex" for a policy statement, and claims in any case it has not been a problem for 15 years. Daigety says it has "an informal understanding that any office affairs would be treated on an ad hoc basis" Hanson says it has "no specific policy".

One anonymous chairman of a public relations company is, however, more brutal: "When I had two employees involved with each other, I insisted one of them had to leave." Which one: the man or the woman? "I didn't specify which one - although she was a secretary and he was an account executive. I think

that was quite fair. Personal relationships in the office just don't work."

The toD quotes a personnel survey that suggests an average of six affairs in every company at any one time, but Paula Grayson, who chairs the Institute of Personnel Management's recruitment working party, says office affairs are a small, and declining, problem She says: "I think it is very rare for people at work to fall in love. The work environment is not conducive to romance, particularly in recent years when many companies have been employing fewer staff and working them harder in the search for

greater efficiency and productivity." But such warnings are not enough for the IoD, which concludes with advice from a psychologist, ranging from saying no to that first after-work drink to, "in an extreme situation", moving job. Take the long view, the loD's psychologist urges: "The consolation for a married person is that, if they do turn away, the feelings do eventually subside."

Troops given the bird at Christmas



Bird watcher: Bernard Matthews among some of the assets under his wing at Great Witchingham Hall, Norfolk

Turkey on menu all year keeps Matthews ahead of the game

reach profits of about £15 "All the ideas come from

million on £155 million sales within the company, and I'm

'There has been no outside capital

trative offices, while eight se- mini-kievs and turkey sau-

parate farms produce nothing sages. Marinated turkey steaks

but eggs for him. Another 12 in a range of sauces are about

He said: "There has been no development myself."

analysts believe be could

outside capital ever brought

into this company. The whole

thing is still based on that

Great Witchingham Hall,

original £2.50."

By STEPHEN LEATHER

BRITISH troops in the Gulf are receiving a bonus this Christmas - Bernard Matthews has shipped 1,000 of his finest turkeys to them.

It has been a busy year for the man whose Norfolk accent and television appearances have made him one of Britain's best-known businessmen. Profits are taking off, he has just turned 60 years old, and this year is his 40th in the turkey business. To celebrate, each of his 2,500 employees has been given a special edition Royal Doulton turkey to mark his company's

milestone. Mr Matthews has come a long way in the last 40 years. In 1950, barely out of his teens, he paid one shilling each for 20 turkey eggs, bought a paraffin incubator for £1.50. and an empire was born.

"My total investment on that day was £2.50. From the 20 eggs, I hatched 12 turkeys which I sold to a local farmer for 75p each when they were four weeks old. so I got £9. had to sell them because couldn't afford to feed them any more," he said.

His increase in assets over one month gave him a taste for the turkey business. At any time, he now has up to three million birds under his wing. Pre-tax profits last year

turkey products such as roasts, sausages and steaks. Of the whole burds, half are sold over the Christmas period. The turkey king who earned just under £200,000 last year and owns 41 per cent of the company (capitalised at about £100 million), has

feet of cold storage.

some nine million birds, of

which 3.5 million weigh 30lbs

or more and are made into

carn £9. the company, travelling to the million a year to turnover. Continent looking for acquisitions, touring his huge processing plants, visiting the development kitchens where the search for new products is never-ending, and fronting the famous television adverts.

"At least three of the direc-

come a long way since the

days when it took a month to

ever brought into this company. The whole thing is still based on that original £2.50. the Norfolk manor house be ways of eating turkey than bought for £3,000 in 1955, simply stuffing and roasting houses the group's administ them: turkey roasts, turkey

every day at midday," he said.

very keen on new product

money not so much from

selling Christmas turkeys, but

Matthews has made its

farms produce whole birds, to burst on the scene. and the Matthews empire "Eighty per cent of our owns 290,000 sq ft of factory turnover comes from added space and 1.5 million cubic value products and that's allyear-round business. Only 20 Each year, the firm handles per cent of our turnover is in whole birds. The whole bird turnover hasn't reduced, it's remained fairly static, but turnover of added-value products has gone up enormously. It's now really the backbone of

the company." This year, Matthews went into the fish business, using the technology it has developed to produce turkey minikievs Sea Pearls - cod balls filled with cheese sauce - sell under the Norfolk Bay brand and the company hopes they He is still the focal point of will soon contribute up to £5

Previous ventures outside the turkey business have not been particularly successful. The company pulled out of chicken and pet food marketing, after disappointing sales, in 1989, which was not a good year for anyone in the poultry

sales of £135.8 million, and tors are in the test kitchen and red meat business. Profits were held back in 1988 and 1989, and the shares have gone from a peak of 98p in 1988 to 53p earlier this year, before recovering to a year's high of 88p on Friday. But the interim figures this year were well above market expectations, with pre-tax profits 68 per cent higher at

from convincing the British public that there are more £6.2 million and the interim dividend doubled to 2p a share. The company is virtually debt-free.

Most of the success is homegrown. The group's attempts to move into continental Europe and America have yet to pay off. A licensing deal with the Sarah Lee Corporation in America has yet to bear real fruit. Mr Matthews said: "It's still running at the moment, we're still quite friendly with them and we are earning some money out of it, so we

won't throw it away." In 1986, the Continent accounted for about 4 per cent of turnover. After four years of pushing, it is about 5 per cent, despite Mr Matthews appearing in a German TV commercial: "Meine Deutsch is not nich gut, aber mein putenschnitzel is wunderful."

The company constantly runs into German and French regulations that prevent it selling added-value products, but there is light at the end of the tunnel. "The situation in Germany will alter very shortly and we hope the French will change before 1992," he said."We're going to invest in Europe when we can find the

right things to invest in." One thing is for sure, when he does make a big move into France, the French will not be seeing him on television extolling the virtue of his "bootiful" products. The company will be playing down its English connections.

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(Incorporated under the Companies Act 1985 Registered in England No. 269566)

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in Ordinary shares of 10p each £900,000

£676,000

Lssued

The principal activity of the Group is that of an investment and commercial holding company. The subsidiary companies trade in textiles and allied products.

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WH Ireland, Stephens & Co Limited PO Box 506, Grange House John Dalton Street, Manchester M60 2QJ

Caldwell Investments P.L.C. 7 Connaught Square London W2 2BH

Hoare Govert Securities Limited and Winterflood Securities Ltd have indicated they will be the market makers and it is anticipated that dealings will commence on 31st December, 1990.

24th December, 1990

hink back to Christmas Eve

But this is supposed to be the festive season, so let us turn this observation upside down. At this year's Christmas parties the talk is entirely about the end of a golden era - of war, bankruptcy, recession and even Stalinist backlash. Could all the fashionable pessimism prove to be as misplaced as the euphoria last year? Here are four unfashionably cheerful predictions for

☐ Iraq will be forced to withdraw from Kuwait, either by war or through negotiations, and the price of oil will fall abruptly either way. In the event of war, the brief spike that would inevitably follow the first bombings would probably last no more than a day or two, since Iraq would find it even harder to no longer ideology that divides

Light at end of 1990's gloomy tunnel

fields than it did in the war against Iran. Not only is Saudi Arabia infinitely better protected, but the few Iraqi missiles and aircraft that survive American carpet bombing will have to be used against enemy tank forces,

against the world's oil trade. Either way, the Arab countries and western oil importers should learn an important lesson from the Gulf — the price of oil is too important to be left entirely to a

not wasted on futile pin-pricks

inflict serious damage on oil

rigged market. After the dust between cooperation of Petroleum Organisation Exporting Countries and the western world on an acceptable long-run path for oil prices will go straight to the top of the international agenda, perhaps even ahead of the Palestinian problem.

☐ The turmoil in Moscow may yet have a happy ending, for it is



ANATOLE KALETSKY

the conservatives from the progressives. The battle now is over most important component of borders and over whether the military and managerial élite continue to be the prime economic resources.

The generals want to keep the Soviet Union together and are economy, with capitalist-style prepared to lend a heavy hand against the forces of nationalist separatism (many of which themselves have militarist and racist overtones). But they have not the faintest idea of what to do with the economy.

The most important enemies of perestroika are now the factory managers, scientists and engineers who see their powers and privileges threatened by the deindustrialisation and cutbacks in

investment that would be the any programme for economic stabilisation. What President Gorbachev must now do is beneficiaries of the nation's persuade these people that they would re-emerge as the managerial élite in a market-based privileges beyond the dreams of communist avarice.

In marxist terms, the question is whether the present managerial élite in the Soviet Union is more like a feudal or a bourgeois ruling class. History suggests that feudal rulers can be overthrown only through bloodshed. But contrary to Marx's expectations, the sort of semi-meritocratic, semi-bourgeoisie that runs the Soviet Union may be susceptible to

reform from within. ☐ The pound will probably

stabilise in the weeks ahead somewhere between its recent low of DM2.85 and DM2.90. This will enable the government to cut interest rates, albeit with less alacrity than the economic situation or the Conservative party's political requirements would have justified outside the exchange-rate mechanism of the European Monetary System.

The pound's interest advantage over the mark offers investors a virtually guaranteed profit as long as Britain does not leave the ERM or realign sterling's band downwards.

Some such realignment seems almost certain before or just after the next election. The level at which sterling stabilises essentially reflects the market's expectation about when either a voluntary realignment or an ERM breakdown will come.

Whenever the pound is at DM2.85 or lower, the market is

effectively forecasting a realignment within six months or less. With the pound above DM2.90, the market is banking on the ERM bands being preserved for a year or more.

The truth probably lies somewhere between, suggesting that the pound will settle towards the top of the DM2.85 to DM2.90 range and that the whole range will move downwards as the interest differential between Britain and Germany narrows.

By the middle of next year, DM2.85 will probably be the top of the trading range, rather than the bottom. The ultimate ERM floor of DM2.78 will be looking increasingly vulnerable amid calls for dramatic policies to pull the economy out of recession. This leads to the final prediction. Sooner, rather than later, antirecession policies will be applied and the recession will prove shorter than many pessimists are expecting. For if there is one certainty about the prospects for the coming year it is this: Britain will remain a democracy and democracies do not like recessions, especially not in election years.

GrandMet is our bright only half of top boards spot as Polly leads fall

Our portfolio

has again outperformed the FT-SE index. Unfortunately,

this time it was

in the extent

of its fall

THIS time last year, the Tempus column was proud to proclaim that it had comfortably beaten the market with its share selections for 1989. The past year has once again seen the FT-SE 100 trailing in its wake: it fell 10.7 per cent, from 2,422.7 to 2,164.4, against the Tempus portfolio's 35.3 per cent slide. Pride, it must be confessed, was not the word that leapt irresistibly from this keyboard. Rarely, after all, can it have preceded so literal a

But while acknowledging that there will be those readers who believe that Asil Nadir should have had the company of this column behind bars as this Christmas approached, it must be said that the Tempus back is as broad as any auditor's mind.

It was a pretty disappointing performance, even for a difficult year. We did manage to avoid British & Commonwealth, and resisted the temptations of such as Lowndes Queensway and Berisford International. But Polly Peck! As 1990 dawned through the rubble of the Berlin Wall, it seemed that Mr Nadir's bananas would be among the first symbols of East-West trade. How could we have foreseen the banana skins that would send the group sliding into the hands of the administrators and put Mr Nadir in the dock?

Dealings in Polly Peck shares were suspended in is anyone's guess. For the purposes of the table, we have likely to prove highly somebody's arms.

optimistic.

Cable & Wireless

Eurotunnel Warrants

Grand Metropolitan

Midland & Scottish

Midland Bank

Trafalgar House

*Suspension price

Mining Portfolio. He at least

marched his men back to the

spot from whence they started.

year. And they marched down

again - but, sadly, they kept

on marching, to finish the year

average loss of 53.8 per cent.

Had investors successfully

identified the peak of each

share during 1990 and sold.

the average gain would have

been 25.77 per cent. Real life,

however, does not work that

This was a year when

mining was an unloved sector.

The portfolio shows an

Our five mining shares did

march up the hill during the disheartened.

Polly Peck

Tomkins

in the pit.

Stakis

impossible to predict; the recession - at least its length and ferocity - could scarcely have been foreseen. Few may recollect, but a year ago the popular view was that interest rates would begin a long decline by Easter, leaving some of the out-of-favour and construction shares undervalued.

Like Midland Bank, Another year of talking, and the Hongkong and Shanghai merger plan finally collapsed this month. Not before Midland September. Their worth today had demonstrated more clearly than ever, through its Third World lending, and its used the suspension price, but exposure to corporate failure. it must be conceded that this is that it would be better off in

103 194

THE GRAND Old Duke of in their wake, Iraq's invasion share, Harmony, which is

Saudi Arabian gold sales left

even the bulls of gold

Butte Mining was the dog

The South African gold

that should have barked. In-

stead, it was just a dog.

Harmony

Metaligesellschaft

%loss/gain

-19.0

-45.5

-25.6

-43.1 -51.4

-69.7

-53.0

-10.8

Mining marches up — and down

of Kuwait in August put only heavily geared to a movement

temporary fire under the gold in the gold price, touched

price, and successive bouts of 849p at its peak. The inter-

A review of the selections remain high and the world

HOW THEY FARED

Start High

£229.93

Either Sir Kit McMahon Polly Peck's perils were makes a success of the new,

HOW THEY FARED

shrunken Midland, or another bidder moves in. Midland may be worth holding at this not too late to buy. level, but it could be some time before we know. Cut

> tally foul of the recession, and recovery, as with the rest of the housebuilding and property industry, looks some way off. The saving grace is the 12.5 per cent dividend yield. but there is little else to go for

Stakis was more of a gamble that failed to come off. Its mix of casinos, public houses and restaurants failed to perform, while its refurbished hotels are now only filling rooms at heavily discounted tariffs. Shareholders can hardly expect to be bailed out by a bidder in the current climate. Still, if you are in, hold on.

alty was Tomkins. Gregory market with equity to pay for mid-Nineties Philips Industries last summer he also realised City fears.

transformed catering giant consistency.

national investment percep-

tion of South Africa remains

uncertain, local mining costs

Metallgeselischaft of Ger-

many remains solid and a

Rolls-Royce in its field. But

Year's

change %

-53.57

-28.12

-35.15

the investment appeal that

849p

£250.77

129p

gold price has been no help.

outperformed the market, and

deserves to again this year. It's

It is hard to find anything very positive to say about GKN. It clearly remains more Trafalgar House fell bru- vulnerable to recession than was thought, even though conditions have proved far worse than feared. No early recovery here, and there are cheaper stocks in the sector.

Views on Cable and Wireless are mixed. Currency factors will slow the performance in 1991, overshadowing expected underlying growth. The duopoly review was a positive factor, and some believe in a Mercury flotation, which could add value. On balance they should be worth holding

Midland & Scottish was the most speculative of the ten stocks. While the 9.4 per cent British & Commonwealth A more unfortunate casu- stake is still overhanging the market, there seems little Hutchings has matched expec- chance of much upside movetations, but in flooding the ment but the outlook for the favourable.

On the other hand, perhaps Indigestion left the share price we should be investing in out of sorts. It will bounce ropemakers or the manufacturers of revolvers. Still, no-The portfolio's one marked body can get it right all of the success was Grand Metropoli- time, and at least our portfolio tan. Sir Allen Sheppard's had the dubious quality of

seemed so promising for east-

ern Europe in January has not

yet materialised. None the

Normandy Resources in

Australia was picked for the

man behind it - Robert

rather than for the company's

significant stake in Poscidon.

But then 1990 was not a very

happy year for many an

Finally, Zurland Inter-

national - the iodine-nitrate

project in Chile that changed

its name to Atacama Re-

sources and then was wrapped

into KAP Resources. The

project remains feasible, but

the share never caught Lon-

Mining selections for 1991

don's imagination.

Australian.

Champion de Crespigny -

less, still worth holding.

consider green issues

ENVIRONMENTAL impact on business has been considered at board level by only half of Britain's leading companies, says a Confederation of British Industry survey.

At this year's annual conference, the CBI supported a motion saying the extra burdens on businesses from growing environmental legislation in Britain and the EC were wholly justified. The motion is the furthest industry has gone towards acknowledging pressure for environmentally responsible manufacturing The CBI's latest journal backs the move with evidence of how seriously firms are taking the environment as an issue.

The CBI reports the results of a poll of leading company finance directors carried out for Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte, the management consultant, which, with Pilkington, the glass manufacturer, is sponsoring the CBPs own environmental initiative. About 90 per cent of the finance directors rated the environment as a serious issue for their businesses. About 55 per cent said the environment raised significant financial concerns, although the survey found business had largely not shown a speedy practical re-

sponse to environmental Only 54 per cent said they had given detailed consideration at board level to the impact of the environment on their businesses. This result tends to support the view of some business-environment analysts who feel that the push is coming from managers still

rising in organisations.

The survey shows 56 per cent of the leading companies looked at do not have a formal corporate policy to cover environmental issues. Only 29 per cent had mentioned the subject in annual reports.

PHILIP BASSETT Industrial Editor

GILT-EDGED top boards Hope for Christmas future as Lamont plays Scrooge

ition as Chancellor? before the markets as Santa and now obliged to switch into the role of Scrooge.

For the gilt market the dimming of Christmas interest rate hopes has been a mixed blessing. For shorts, the prospect of base rates being held high for some time can only be damaging.

For longs also, the cost of carrying stock is more burdensome. But the further one travels along the yield curve, the more important prospective inflation becomes, and the less important the more immediate future for base

The longer base rates are held high, the deeper the recession, and the weaker inflation will be. So the disappointing news on base rates could end up being good news for long gilts.

Not that the market has gone up on the news so far. Partly, of course, that is simply because the market has

But it is also because yields tendency to under-fund. have reached a level where the market is worried about three things — the prospects for funding the comparison with yields on overseas bonds, and the implied level of real yields. On all three, market worries of gilts needing to be sold. are on the wrong tack.

To begin with funding. Next year the PSBR may be £7 billion, which would imply gross gilt issues of perhaps £13 pared with the gilt purchases of recent years, but it is not extraordinary compared with the issuance of a few years previously, even in nominal

TT The would envy Nor-holdings are so low that issues scope to fall and on a conserman Lamont's pos- of this size should be absorbed early - provided the eco-There he was, all set to appear nomic fundamentals look

> Furthermore, what sort of stock will the authorities be likely to issue? The answer is probably a bit of everything. But there is likely to be a bias against conventional longs, For if the authorities believe (as we do) that British inflation will fall, to the ERM average and perhaps even lower, then it would be mad to issue large amounts of conventional longs at anywhere near present yield levels, for the implied real yield basis would

be far too high. Only when the market's expectations of inflation have caught up with the authorities' (and the nominal yield level is accordingly much lower) would it make sense to issue large amounts of conventional longs. (This is similar to the argument for introducing index-linked stocks in 1981.)

Instead they are likely to bias funding towards conventional shorts and mediums run out of steam after its ball and index-linked stocks, as well as perhaps having a

Indeed, if, as seems plausible, they have to intervene to support the pound, some of their funding would come directly from the official reserves, reducing the quantity

omparison with yields overseas looks more of a problem. The differential with French ten-year bonds is now down to little billion. Sounds a lot, com- more than 1 per cent. With German bonds it is only slightly more than 2 per cent.

Given that the inflation rate is about 3½ per cent in France and 3 per cent in Germany, that differential looks low. But Indeed, the institutions' gilt British inflation has far more

vative estimate it looks likely to end next year at 4-5 per cent, with the likelihood of further falls in 1992.

T.S - 4. . .

Security for the second

These inflation forecasts also challenge the view that real yields are low enough on gilts in an absolute sense. The problem is one of perspective. Looking back over the past 20 years it is easy to say that present nominal yields are definitely low enough.

But there are five things that render this experience almost irrelevant

First, the enormous structural changes in the British economy over the past ten years, which may bring a greater proportionate disinflationary effect in this downtum than in any other since the

econd, the depth of the recession, which could Challenge, or even surpass that of 1979-81. Third, Britain's membership of the ERM, which is enforcing anti-

inflationary discipline. Fourth, the onset of world recessionary forces, which promises to bring world inflation rates much lower.

And last, the increasing worries about credit quality, which will place an added

premium on government The upshot is that the gilt investor can look forward to next year's Christmas pudding costing hardly any more than this year's, and similarly for

many more years. He should consult Mrs Beaton's records and discover when that was last true, noting the level of long yields at the time. Was it so long ago that the sixpence inside the pudding would pay

> ROGER BOOTLE Greenwell Montagu Gilt-Edge

Smaller deals are thriving in tough market conditions

Demise of the mega-buyouts

IF 1990 was not the year the management buyout bubble burst, it was certainly one of dramatic deflation. In the past, the market followed a fairly steady pattern of development with sets of annual figures regularly showing more deals with a higher average value. This year, the average deal size fell back to £6 million, compared with £14.8 million in 1989.

Megadeals are simply not on the agenda. With high real interest rates and, until recently, sellers expecting relatively high values, the sums for leveraged deals just do not add up. Even if a mega-buyout were being considered, it is unlikely it could be financed. The banks that provided the towering structures of debt bave effectively shut their leveraged buyout counters.

The buyout market has adapted to the new conditions. With the ponderous debt dinosaurs now extinct, smaller, more flexible and more sensibly structured deals have taken their place. In some respects the climate is more favourable to true management buyouts than during much of the late Eighties. Large companies looking to trim their balance sheets are accelerating their disposal

quoted companies, including carried out in 1990, another cent. Parkfield, Coloroll and Lowndes Oueensway, has also provided a fertile breeding ground for smaller buyouts. Last year, only 0.4 per cent of buyouts were from companies likely to rise to about 14 per development of mezzanine



Decline of the buy-in: David Smith, Isosceles chief

market in the early Eighties. forced the market to accept fail too. Before 1989, receiverships of management buyouts debt in deals during the first and buy-ins were almost un- half of 1990 remained conknown - there were only eight in 1988 and none in 1986. Last year provided a foretaste of nearly-halved to 10.8 per cent. what was to come with 27 The proportion of equity inreceiverships. This year the creased from an historically figure is likely to be as high as low 16.8 per cent in 1989 to a The collapse of several large 60. For every ten new deals more respectable 22.2 per

existing deal went bust, A significant factor has been management paying too much for companies in cyclical inin receivership. In 1990 that is by deal-hungry advisers. The been catastrophic.

formative years of the buyout teams could bridge the gap between what the equity and The recession has also debt players would provide. But in too many cases the gap that management buyouts can should not have been bridged.

The average level of senior stant at 60 per cent, but the level of mezzanine finance

A further negative aspect of the market this year has been the decline of the management buy-in. Whereas the fall in the dustries, backed by excessive value of buyouts has been amounts of debt and exped on dramatic, for buy-ins it has

Admittedly last year's figure

by David Smith, chief executive, and Pembridge. For the venture capitalists backing the deals, 1990 has been a year of portfolio

management rather than deal making - a return to cold reality after the cuphoria of the past three or four years. Frank Neale, a partner at Phildrew Ventures, predicts the industry will divide into the weak-willed, the "too

nice" and the competent. In his view the weak-willed will sit by and watch their companies disappear, the toonice will pour money down the drain, backing existing management and strategies. and the competent "will be those few that extract concessions from the refinancing process both in terms of management personnel and ? fundamental strategies".

A fourth group he might have added are those players who will simply withdraw from an industry suffering from severe overcapacity. The process may take years. 25 several large funds are under no obligation to invest uniti 1993 or 1994, but it has

already begun. Only a handful of the man institutions that entered the buyout game during the go go years are seen to be leading deals, particularly at the large end. In the long term this will be healthy for the market. The headline deals may have dis appeared but the management buyout is now a well estable lished mechanism for brings about changes of corporati ownership in times of boe!

40 123

and recession. INSIATUAN DON'S

Base metal prices fell. The

winner and a companion will

be the guests of Coral for a

champagne day out, with

lunch in a suite overlooking

the course, members' badges

and passes for the paddock

viewing area, and £50 to-

correct entry drawn from all

those received by the closing

date, January 4, will have

first choice from the three

events: the second the next

The sender of the first

wards travelling expenses.

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placed entrant will take the the Hilton National Hotel ACROSS

1 He has managed better than son (3). most this year (11). 5 A field placing that could 63 Del boy of Real Madrid (3). catch you on the hop (5, 3). 9 James, who went round the (5). bend very quickly (4).

11 A rugby club for bargain hunters? (4). 12 A minor county fast 69 He now hooks on the golf bowler? (5, 7). 14 Free-wheel, possibly in a 71 Sportsmen who take one of shore race (5).

club (4, 3). 16 Try this for starters (3). 17 Was he just a boy when at 82 Initially, the footballers'

home at Old Trafford and Maine Road? (4). 18 Sat in for a television talker 19 Perhaps it is one of Gascoigne's (4).

20 A hook from Brian Moore, for instance (4). 23 Judo exponents are desperate for this first (3). 25 A Scottish course, but not 91 Wrestling for everybody (3, for golf (3).

pool? (7). 28 Gold in black in Rome and 93 They're at home at Oxford Tokyo (5). 29 England's cricketers need

to get in gear for the Ashes (6). 32 The ultimate run (4). 33 Leslie, who could keep to a change of seam bowling (4). 37 Player part noticed at Twickenham (3).

39 On which you will often find Hubert (5). 41 Where ice hockey players go for their sins (3). 43 A big shot at the table? (6). 44 The goal footballers do not

want to score (3). 45 Short of skill going downhill perhaps (3). 47 All track athletes get it (5). 48 At St Andrews and St

George's (4). 49 For the boxer who wants to mix it (5). 51 Batsmen and rowers are

lost without them (7). 54 A Warwickshire maiden? 55 Sir Richard Hadlee bent his

this year (4). 56 Singular addition (5). 59 Boat Race propellent (3).

The England v Cameroon replay of the World Cup period - with three luxury quarter-final last July - at Wembley on February 6. Our Our winner will have a winner and a companion will choice of a first-class visit for be the guests of Wembley for two people to one of the champagne reception and leading sports events in the dinner in the Twin Towers next three months; the run- Suite, special seats for the ner-up will choose from the match, savouries afterwards other two; and the third- and then an overnight stay at

60 Harris, Matthews or Simp-

61 Conway on ice (6). 64 Kornelia, who finished well

65 Pele's partner (3). 66 Only Fontaine (4). 67 Shea changed for tennis (4). course (6).

these can get in trouble (5). 15 Saw them for a London 77 Might he ride Come To Grand-Daddy? (7) 80 A hit-and-miss shot (3).

union (3). 83 One of 24 at Le Mans (4). 85 A western style of jumping 86 Boxers do not like to be out

87 Andy, of Villa or Palace (4). 88 Stephen Hendry is successful at the end of it (3). 90 To adorn a yacht? (7).

26 A royal house at Ponty- 92 Not everything's equal in the gym (8, 4). and Plough Lane (4). 94 Watch my lips for change of fielding (4). 95 They are hard to match in front of goal (8). 96 It causes quite a stir at the

> 1 Batsmen need one when facing bouncers (9). 2 Butcher will not be silenced

bottom (6, 5).

out in boxing (7).

3 Where Robson is adding initials to his career (9). 4 The tightest possible finish 5 They are always being called

6 Shape of Kennington and Rensington (4). 7 They've had more than their share of trouble this year (9). 8 Gareth, who passed this way for Cardiff and Wales (7). 9 Perhaps a kick in error in the

long jump pit (5). 19 A place of worship at Goodison? (6). 11 Having a great time on

next to the Wembley Wednesday, March 13. Our

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The Coral Golden Hurdle Final day at the Cheltenham National Hunt Festival on court (8).

13 He (and she) carries a lot of responsibility (5). 21 Men rose for a Wimbledon winner (7). 22 Ambridge sportsman (6).

24 A former footballer infamous for his appetite! (6, 6). 27 Lofted shots with every- 116 thing (5). 30 See clip for stakes at

Sandown (7). 31 The highest flier on course 34 Boxers are no chickens at

this weight (6). 35 One of the desired effects of seam bowling (7). 36 It goes to the head of the best (3). 38 A name ground into history

39 Potter's art (12). 40 Changed at half-time (4). 42 Find a lock for a master (4, 46 Middlesex and Brentford Patsy (7).

48 The name Margaret Du Pont answered to in her singles game (7). 50 The All Black Boot (6). 52 Lawton used his to great effect (4). 53 A heavyweight champion

in 1984 (4). 57 The Russian sisters who partly impressed (5). 58 The value of red (3). 61 A self-defence (2-5). 62 Brian, who dived for a

medal (6). 68 Striking Italian (9). 70 Racing drivers halt at mine (3, 5). 72 Rob Andrew, for instance, got his with Cambridge (5, 4).

73 England captain with a shilling (3, 6). 74 Men or nets for a Wembley hat-trick (9). 75 The Brockton Blockbuster

76 Caged in snooker? (7). 78 Gun rods for the places that matter in sport (7). 79 Bueno in tennis (5). 81 Plural in billiards (6). 84 The bowlers's approach (3,

89 Fred, who handled with care for Preston (4).

selection; and the third will win the remaining day out.

There are special prizes for the next ten correct entries: five copies (autographed by the author) of Ranji: A Genius Rich and Strange, Simon Wilde's biography of Ranjitsinhji (published by Kingswood, £14.99) and five copies of The IOC Best of Sport Photographic Book, a collection of the best sports

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COURAGE CLUBS CHAMPIONSHIP

MEMBLEY STADIUM LIMITED

squad expected to shine By MIKE LAMB A STRONG midfield compris-ing Phil McGuire (Teddington), Jon Roberts (Stourport), Neil Barker (Old Loughtonians) and Jason Lee (East Grinstead), all . of whom are in the England senior indoor squad, will form. the backbone of the British

students team at the Los Reyes. hockey tournament in Barcelona from January 4 to 6. The squad, preparing for the ... World Student Games in Sheffield in July, contains seven full " internationals, with a furtherfour unavailable. Rob Thompson, David Luckes, Rob Hill, and Jason Lasiett are all eligible for the Games but will not be in Barcelona, having only recently returned from Australia and representing Britain in the Champions' Trophy.

STUDENT SPORT

A hockey

The Los Reyes tournament will give the side three games in three days and will test the equad which to date has had only a limited amount of time together. There will be high expectation for the team in Sheffield, for hockey has beenselected as Britain's guest sport to join the standard ten-sport programme. South Korea, Australia, the Netherlands and Germany are the teams most likely to contest medal positions with British Students.

GREAT BRITAIN SCHAD: R Purvis (Hounslow), M Langeton (Wakefield), M Zander (Wakefield), C Hector (Gordonians), R Freeland (Gordonians), D Philips (Reading), N Barker (Old Loughtonians), P Krishman (Old Loughtonians), R Crutchtey (Neston), J Hoberts (Stourport), J Lee (East Grinstead), P Wallis (East Grinstead), P McGuire (Teddington), A Coldough (Teddington), S Bism (Teddington), M Coleman (Havant). Chester College have reached colleges women's hockey cup, and will meet Crewe and Alsager, the champions. Bed-

ford will face Cardiff Institute in the other half. The men's championship awaits the result of the third-round tie between Cardiff Institute and St Mary's. the winners of which will play West London Institute, who have not conceded a goal, in the south semi-final. In the northern half, Crewe and Alsager, who beat last year's losing finalists, Jordanhill, 6-0 and have scored 20 goals with justone against, will meet Hamberside.

 Chester, with 12 goals from three matches, also figure in the semi-finals of the football championship, where they face Edge Hill in a bome and away tie on January 30 and February 6, respectively. In the other semi-final, West London Institute will face strong opposition from Cheltenham and Gloucester, who beat Cardiff Institute, winners over last year's champions, St Mary's, Twickenham.

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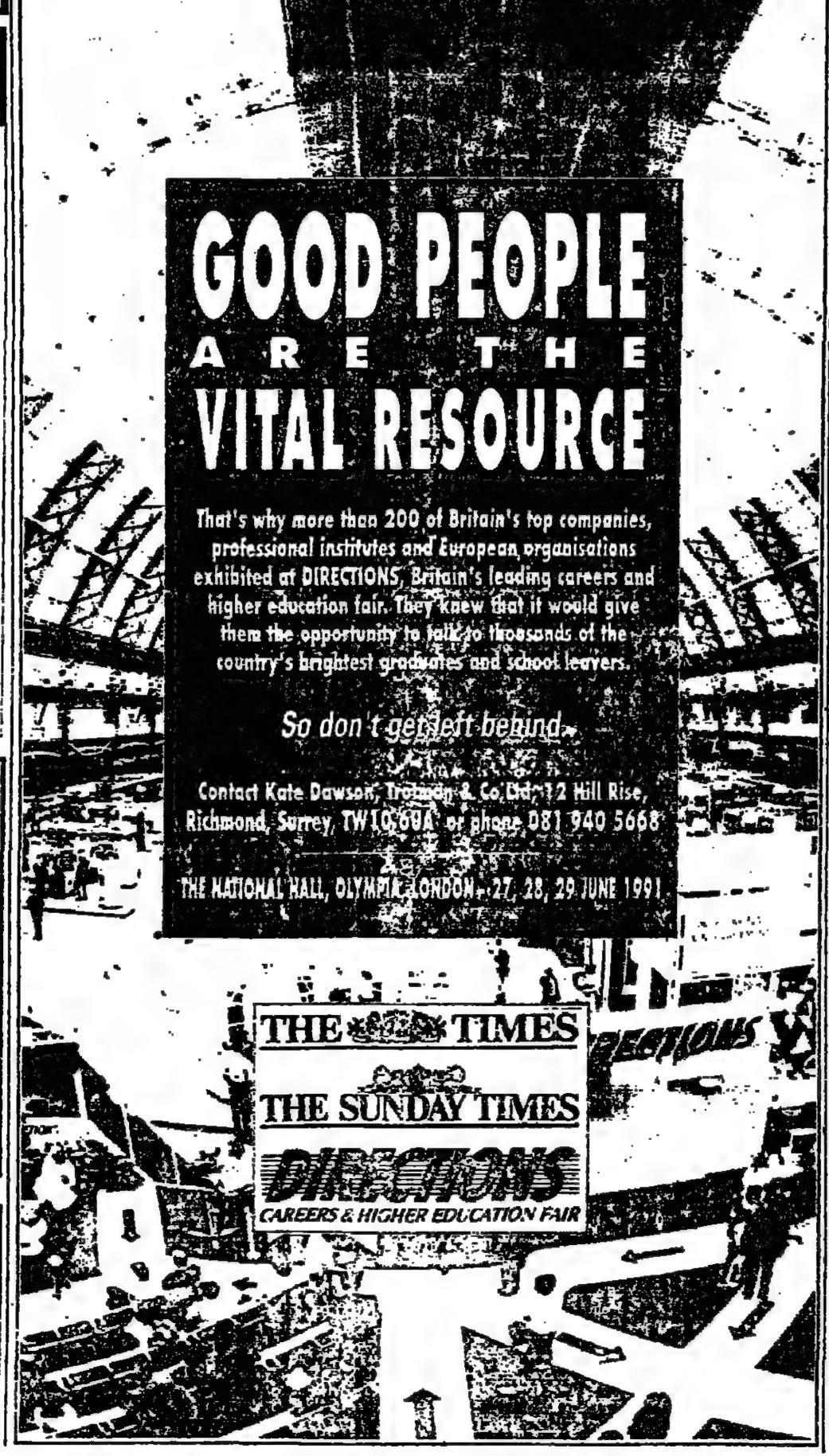
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Frank วิวีรียร condi Satur

player

Strength in depth proves crucial as players prosper without the pressure of competing for rugby union points

Wasps reserve their best for Park

By DAVID HANDS RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

Rosslyn Park

hockey

Pected Shine

McGara Taddington

בבב: אַנוּטוּנִיבּרק

RATION

CER

WASPS had promised before the match that they were out to enjoy themselves, and so they did, plundering five goals and five tries to a try and two penalty goals at Rochampton on Saturday, as well as becoming the first club side to win there this season. Amid the festivity it does, though, beg the serious question of whether clubs cannot play the same game when the league comes round - particularly when they are as well blessed with good players as Wasps. That was the substantial

difference between the teams. It has been a good-ish season for Rosslyn Park, who have been able to field a virtually unchanged XV during their league matches, but only three of them were on the field on Saturday. Wasps had a stronger complement available but their depth of quality is greater - only Jan Bonney, last year's England colts wing, has yet to have a decent run in the senior

league match last month was a taut affair, won 13-10 by Wasps, but they let their hair down with a vengeance, and no one profited more that Mickey Harris and Phil Hopley. Each scored three tries, Harris benefiting from his pack's supremacy at the scrums which enabled him to expose a somewhat tenuous back-row defence in open play, as well as to dot down two simple scores from pushovers.

Hopley, somewhat implausibly described in these columns last week as younger brother of Damian, the 20year-old England B centre. when he has in fact qualified as a doctor, plays in similar style to his sibling. An upright carriage with powerful, long the scorers but his quick hands strides made him a hard man for the Park midfield to halt; if anybody aged dramatically over the weekend it was Park's out of position at stand-off

come to the party

Hom a Correspondent IN TOULOUSE

Todouse.

THE city of Toulouse has been celebrations of the Stade Toulousain club but Queensland, by far the tailer and heavier side, were favoured to deny the hosts the final satisfaction of winning their own trophy in the Toulouse Masters, the onfield element of the party.

Yet fulfilment was not to be denied. On an afternoon of drama, Toulouse played a fastmoving game based on almost frenzied driving in the loose by their small pack and on the definess of their passing under pressure behind the scrum. Earlier, Fiji had provided the perfect warm-up, with 12 irresistible tries in a 60-19 win over Bath for third place.

Thankfully, what military planners call the worst-case scenario did not come about in the final. There was an undercurrent of anger and one disgraceful fight between Ryan and Gérard Portolan, However, Oueensland officials spoke openly of the possibility of fullscale riots given that television highlights of the Toulouse v Bath semi-final had revealed some appalling sneak punching

by Toulouse players.

The match was decided when Ryan and Portolan were flailing away, because Cazalbou was driven over in a rush of players to take the score to 21-10 inside the last five minutes. The other two tries were similarly compelling - Bonneval fly-kicked the ball out of deep defence and scored, after a thrilling chase, with a somersault as he crossed the line and later, in the second half. Carozza finished off a memorable Queensland move with a try near the left corner. Ultimately, Queensland

lacked the inspiration to add to their mighty appetite for the occasion and they clearly missed Lynagh, the one leading player anable to travel to Toulouse. Kahl, his replacement at standoff half, struggled all afternoon. Earlier, Bath were nothing like as far behind on the run of play as the final score suggested. If they had managed to field in their badly-weakened side some backs with pace, they could have scored at least four more tries and, in fact, were never disgraced. It was simply that Fiji, inspired by a remarkable treble by the sprinting lock, Rasari, were playing on a different level.

Scorers: Toulouse: Tries: Bonneval, Cazelbou. Conversions: Ougier (2). Pen-eties: Ougler (3). Queensland: Try: Carozza. Pensities: Kahl (2). TOULOUSE: S Ougier: E Bonneval, M Mariting, P Rouge-Thomas, D Berty: J Dupuy, J Cazalbou; J Garcies (rep: G Portolan), P Soula (rep: E Jamin), C Portolan, H Lecomite, J-M Cadleu, H Morin, A Cigagne, K Janik. QUEENSLAND: G Martin: I Signifyavi, J Little, D Maguira, P Carozza: P Kahl, P Stamery: M Ryan, D Nucliora, D Crowley, J Gardner, R McCall, W Campbell (rep: J

Eales), S Scott-Young, & Nasser. Retates: R Hourquet (France). Leodiensians, from Leeds, will meet Wetherby in the sixth round of the Provincial Insurance Cup on January 5 after beating Silloth, from Cumbria, 9-6 on Saturday (Barry Trowbridge writes). The only try was scored by John Pickles, the Leodiensians full back, in the second half, Gary Parlett, the left wing, converting and kicking a penalty goal.



Over the Moon: Harris, the Wasps flanker, evades the Rosslyn Park captain's clutches for one of his three tries at Rochampton on Saturday

Hopley would acknowledge. though, the assistance given by Childs. The centre, who toured with England during the summer, was not among and timing of the pass did much to overcome any hesitation displayed by Lozowski,

John Elliott, the England selector, turned up to check on Rendall's return to action and watch Holmes's performance at tight-head prop, but whether he learned much of value debatable. Holmes was playing against a reserve front row which, like most other areas of the Park side, spent the afternoon trying to plug

the gaps. None did better in that respect than Moon, the captain - one splendid covering tackle on Smith halted yet another flowing Wasps move from long range - and he scored his side's only try.

That made the half-time difference 28-4, and the Park's brisk start to the second half, with the encouragement of the

wind and two penalties by Graves, hinted at a recovery. But the backs, who lost Cook and Risman either side of the interval, were entirely out of sorts, and it was typical of the match that the final try came when Smith purred past the persevering Bronks - Park's hooker - in pursuit of White's intelligent kick ahead.

SCORERS: Rosslyer Park: Try: Moon, Penelties: Graves (2), Waspe: Tries: Harris (3), Hopley (3), Smith (2), Pilgrim, Kinsey-Conversions: Pilgrim (5). ROSSLYM PARIC: J Graves: D Cook (rep: N Anderson), M Risman (rep: N Ford), C Smith, J Lanning; M Jermyn, R Moon; D Curry, D Bronks, R Blew, K Schuler, S Foulds, I Campbell-Lamenton, R Stratford, WASPS: S Pilgrim; S Smith, P Hopley, G Childs, J Bonney; R Lozowski, C Hornung; P Rendall, A Simmons, G Holmes, M Rose, R Kinsey, C Pinneger, M White, M Harris.

Reference E Morrison (Bristol).

The hosts Waldron's worries recede a shade

By BRYAN STILES

RON Waldron probably has the best known beard in Wales, and certainly the deepest worry lines. Anybody charged with the responsibility of reassembling the shattered fragments of

Welsh rugby pride, so liberally splashed with whitewash last season, deserves to be allowed to wander the rugby stadiums with a permanent frown. It goes with the job.

He does not have a monopoly on worry lines in the Principality, though. They are writ large on the national countenance. The whitewash was the source of unprecedented distress in Wales and, so far, Waldron's response as national coach on seeing a red Welsh jersey is to colour it black, Neath black. The lament is that too many of his old pupils at Neath bave found

themselves in the Wales team. With the opening match of the new international season little more than a fortnight away, those famous worry lines were seen to wrinkle into something resembling a smile after this match at the Gooll on

The game, billed as a final trial, with 15 of the Wales squad striving for a chance to confront England at the National Stadium, had provided a fullblooded battle, with a number of white-shirted Swansea players staking their claims ahead of their black-shirted counterparts. Webster, the Swansea flanker, was a tiger in the loose even when fighting a lost cause in the

second half. Robert Jones, so often the target of the black maeistrom of a pack, still managed to give Dacey a fine service. It would be even better to see Adrian Davies, of Neath, on the receiving end of that long and sharp Jones pass for Wales. Waldron must have noticed that Davies played a significant part in both Neath tries.

lack of a reliable place-kicker. Jones missed three attempts at poal in the first half with the wind at his back and his pack in full flight. Swansea knew they were in

interval. They were immediateunder bombardment from long tactical kicks from Davies and Thorburn. One high punt Davies landed in Emyr's arms and then popped out again for Higgs to touch down for the first try four minutes into the second half. The foot soldiers in the Swansen pack, who had fought valiantly in the trenches, must have felt as if they had been shot in the back by the

Eight minutes later, Davies was on hand to whip the ball away to Laity, whose break inside the Swansea 22 sent in Thorburn for a try which he then converted to seal the issue and keep Neath as unbeaten Heineken League leaders. SCORERS: Martin: Triple Higgs, Thorburn. Conversions: Thorburn (2).

NEATH: P Thoroum; C Higgs (rep: J Griffiths), C Laity, J Ball, A Edmunds; A Devies, C Bridges; B Williams, K Phillips, J Devies, M Morris, P Jackson, G Llewellyn, A Verney, G Liewellyn. SWANSEA: A Clement; B Taylor, S Parfitt. A Williams, A Emyr; M Dacey, R Jones; Buckett, Lisaac, M Morgan, R Webster, R Moriarty, P Arnold, A Reynolds, S Wi-

Northampton sustain the will to advance

London Irish

Northampton 58

THE progress Northampton have made since they lost at Sunbury in a Courage league match the season before last was put into sharp focus by their compelling victory on Saturday.

While it is plain to see the qualities the New Zealander, Wayne Shelford, has aiready brought to the club, it would be quite wrong to attribute all Northampton's rapid improvement to the influence of the former All Black. The club has enjoyed a stirring renaissance both on and off the field, one which began long before Shelford arrived at FranklinsGardens. The pursuit of sustained advancement led to Shelford's arrival rather than

the other way around. Northampton, as they proved conclusively to London Irish on Saturday, have come a long way in a very short time principally because they have some fine

The absence of Olver. Rodber, Packman, Hunter and Elkington offered other squad members an opportunity and most of them made a fair job of il Irish, too, were without some players but the gap between the sides was enormous.

Irish could offer only Millar's Pask, W Shellord. proviess at the back of the Reference B Runswick (RFLI).

Swansea again regretted their

for a torrid time after the

distraught Emyr.

Referee: R Yeman (Port Taibot).

By PETER BILLS

lineout and the early enthusiasm in the loose of Hayes. If Shelford was the sheep dog, organising his charges into precise combinations and positions, the Irish, by comparison, were sheep without a shepherd.

Paul Bright, the Northampton coach, talks of the rigid devotion to concentration and discipline which Shelford has preached. Northampton had put 50 points past Harrogate the previous week; now London Irish were forced to concede 58, indicating that the players have absorbed the need to concentrate for the whole 80 minutes and not for the odd spell.

Northampton led 21-3 at halftime but played much better into the wind, scoring six tries in the second half. Steele was the epitome of accuracy with his kicking, scoring 30 points and being denied another four for a try only by foul play which brought a penalty try. Irish faces were as black as their favourite brew long before the end.

George (2) Northampton: Trees Sheltord, Ward, Pask, Alston, Burns, Ballown, panalty try. Conversions: Steele (6). Penalty goals: Steele (4). Dropped goals: Steele (2).

LONDON IRSSH: E Young, M Corcoran, P Jenkins, V Rotandi, S Campbell; M George, A Erritt; J McVelgh, M Leonard, A Hayes, P Neary, I Stevens, B Maguirs, J Preston (rep: M Cummins), A Miller. NORTHAMPTON: R Glenn; Thorneycroft, C Burns, P Ingram, B Ward; J Steele, B Taylor, G Baktwin, P Roworth, G Paerce, P Asson, J Ethendon, C Hall, P

Apsee's thrust is decisive a good deal from both teams and that they scored a lovely try

By GERALD DAVIES

Pontypool Bridgend .

WITH 12 minutes left of the match there was only one solitary, sorry-looking note in my pad which went some way to reflect. I must hastily add, the indistinct nature of the second half rather than any likely mooching pre-Christmas mood on my part. "Aled Williams kicked a penalty in the first minute" it stated baldly.

There was nothing much else to record after that except for the general impression of two teams still scrambling to come to terms with each other's disorder, which no doubt had something to do with the sloppy, drizzling veather.

That Bridgend won by a goal and a penalty was mainly because of the accuracy of Aled which kind of kicking there was over for a try of his own.

Bibby too precious to replace

By MICHAEL STEVENSON

Wakefield Orrell

THE extent of the gulf dividing the better clubs in the Courage Clubs Championship from the rest was starkly illustrated at

College Grove on Saturday. where Orrell defeated Wakefield by a goal, three tries and two penalties to a goal and a try. The match produced a fascinating duel between two fine scrum halves, Scully and Morris, yet had there been a man-ofthe-match award, it would surely have gone to Orrell's young No. 8, Bibby. Fit, strong and determined, he only needs to improve the timing of his passing to emerge as a player of real class. It will be hard for Charles Cusani, recovered from injury, to supplant him_

Wakefield somehow kept their line intact for 20 minutes until a fierce drive by Bibby gave Morris his chance to pick up and put Ainscough in. A similar scenario was the prelude to the speedy Casack's try and Bibby again split Wakefield's defence to set up Brierley's try which Ainscough converted to give Orrell their 14-0 interval

Wakefield rallied in the second half, Scully ripping the ball from Bibby and Harrison scoring from his precise chip. Showing great strength, Morris then took three Wakefield mea almost to the line and when Strett received he bowled an overhead pass, which Ainscough collected to score. The final try was scored for Wakefield by Rawnsley from a tap penalty after Garnett had nearly scored. Strett managed a couple of simple penalties. SCORERS: Walkefield; Tries: Harrison, Revinelay, Conversion: Astanson, Orreft: Tries: Ainecough (2), Cuseck, Brisney, Conversion: Ainecough, Penalty greats:

WAKEFIELD: A BOWERS; M Harrison, A Addreson, B Barley, M Holdsworth; S Townsond, D Southy, R Lathern, S Crusse, R Burmert, T Garnett, P Wood, P Stewert, S Lancaster, M Rewnskry. ORRELL: S Taberner: P Casack, & Langtond, G Ainscough, P Helsell; M Serett, D Morris; D Sendford, I Taylor, A Rimmer, D Cleary (rep: P Markey), I Brierley, M Glynn, N Ashuret, S Bibby. Reference W Calder (Borders).

from the one swift combined movement of the half.

Pontypool's resources have been severely ransacked of late and they are desperately in need, as they kept on saying, of a boost to morale. For a while they looked like getting it, particularly in their constructive period in the first half. While they have the likes of Huish around, all cannot be said to be lost. He is certainly a man to have at your shoulder in the trenches. He was notably supported by the marvellous Garin Jenkins and Dean Oswald. But the old power is not so evenly distributed

elsewhere. Jonathan and Phillips are an astute pair at half-back. Phillips made a classical outside break to create the platform for the driving forwards which gave and three penalties to two tries Jenkins his try. A few minutes later. Phillips hacked on a loose hall in midfield and ran from the Williams's line-kicking - of halfway line to guide the ball

Williams and Parry then exchanged penalties. Apart from Williams's early second-half penalty nothing, as I said, of note happened in an increasingly untidy second half until, in the 28th minute, Apsec

scythed through Pontypooi's threequarter defence. From the loose scrum, the centre threequarter again delayed his pass and then threw a long ball to Thomas, who ran against the grain of the cover defence to score near the posts. Williams converted this and added a late penalty to secure Bridgend's position in second place to Neath in the premier

SCORERS: Pontypool: Tries: Jenkins, Philips. Penetty gost: Parry. Bridgend: Try: Thomas. Conversion: Williams. Pen-alty gosts: Williams (3). PONTYPOOL: A Party: P Cook, B Lawis, G Davis, S White; D Phillips, C Jonathan; A Dibble, G Jenkins, J Jones, C Huish, K Anderson, N Jones, D Rowlands, D BRIDGEND: G Thomes: G Webbe, J Apsee, S Pritchard, R Diplocic A Williams, R Howley: D Austin, W Hall, D Rees, S Bryant, P Kannalok, N Spender, P Yardley.

Reference C Thomas (Neath).

PROVINCIAL INSURANCE CUP: Fifth

round: North and Midlands: Leodiensians

WALES: Heineken League: Second di-

vision: Averevon Harlequins 7, Lianharan

40; Borymaen 3, Blassa 27; Narberth 27,

Treorchy 4; Runmey 19, Dunvant 6; Wreshern 12, Mountain Ash 14. Third

division: Liendovery 10, Citynydd 10; Pontypool Utd 15, Tentry Utd 8; St Peters 27, Kidwelly 13; Tumbie 30, Ruthin 10.

Spanish excursion provides some useful intelligence From Alan Lorimer threequarters. After a year out of IN SEVILLE

Scotland A.

WHATEVER else Scotland's quartet of coaches may have gleaned from watching this match in Seville on Saturday, their inescapable conclusion must have been that the selectors had chosen much too strong

In a sense, circumstances dictated this. The A team was supposed to help rehabilitate several leading players who had missed part of the early months of the season. As these included Derek White, Damien Cronin and Derek Turnbull Scotland were guaranteed forward domination.

Scotland experimenting with Graham Marshall as an open-side flanker. The Selkirk player, who has been playing at No. 8 for his club and district, came through impressively but the coaches may consider that the strength of the opposition was inad-White not only assisted the

excellent lineout work Doddie Weir and Cronin but also created three of the Scotland tries with his rapid detachment from the back of the scrum. On each occasion, his linkage with either Oliver, the scrum half, or supporting forwards, was expertly executed and the prime beneficiary was Iwan Tukalo, who scored two first-half tries from such moves. Tukalo, who was dropped by Scotland after the first international match against New Zealand last summer, crossed

again in the second half. But the Selkirk wing, although he showed his flair for finishing off moves, was not tested to any extent in defence, the area in which he was perceived to be vulnerable in New Zealand. The other backs to score were Oliver and the Moseley centre, Ruari Maclean, who was the

most penetrative of the Scotland the game through injury he has certainly re-stated his case for

inclusion at B level. Scotland's other two tries were scored by Cronin and Weir and four of the seven were converted by the captain, Peter Dods, who also kicked a penalty. His leadership was certainly an important factor and he was totally safe under the high ball and in the tackle. Dods also did much to involve Scotland's new right wing, Mark Moncrieff, who had one memorable 50-metre run before being tackled just short of the line.

Of the other new players Donald Caskie, of Gloucester, was praised by Derek Grant, one of the coaches, for his tackling while the new props, Gary Isaac, of Gaia, and Graeme Smith, of Moseley, put sufficient pressure on their opponents to help John Allan to three strikes against the

Spain, after losing two of their World Cup qualifying matches in October and to the Emerging Australian XV last month, simply did not have the strength up ront to contest this game. Defensively, however, they were committed and for the first 20 minutes Scotland found it difficult to turn their possession into

When Spain did have the chance to move the ball they looked dangerous and scored an excellent try in the second half through their centre, Jorge Moreno, from a short penalty

SCORERS: Spain: Try: Moreno. Penelty goal: Puertes. Scotland A: Tries: Tukato (3), Oliver, Weir, Cronin, Mactican, Comversions: Dods (4). Pensity goal: Dods. SPARE F Puertas: D Saenz, J Morote, J Moreno, J Azkargorta; E Candau, J Diaz; J Alvaez (captain), J Aguiar, J Diez, J Gutierrez, M Justiniano, G Amunarriz, J Etxeberria, F Mendez.

SCOTLAND A: P Dods (Gals, captain); its Moncriett (Gals), D Caettle (Gloucester), R Macleon (Moseley), I Tululo (Salkirk); D Wyllie (Stewart's-Melville), G Oliver (Hewick); G Issec (Gala), J Allan (Edinburgh Academicals), G Smith (Moseley), D Turnbull (Hawick), D Cronin (Beth), G Wel-(Meirose), G Marshall (Seddrk), D White (London Scottish).

Ireland promote busy Saunders

ROB Saunders, the London Irish scrum half, earned promotion to the Ireland training squad with an outstanding display in Ireland B's 16.0 victory over Scotland B in the mud and rain of Ravenhill on Saturday. Saunders, who has yet to play for Ulster, and his back row were the linchpin of an invigorating Irish display which produced victory by a goal, a try and two penalty goals to nil despite the dismissal in the first quarter of Brian Rigney, the

Grevstones lock. Saunders was one of four players added yesterday to the Ireland squad, now 32 strong, which leaves on Thursday for warm-weather training in the Algarve. Brian Robinson, of Ballymena, also uncapped, was along with Brendan Mullin and John Sexton, who have both recovered from hand injuries. Rigney will also go to the Algarve, despite being sent off

for punching by Steve Griffiths, the newest member of England's nternational refereeing panel. Rigney has been suspended for three weeks, but, because Ireland will play no match while training his attendance is not

Welwyn 32, Stevenage 6; Westcilff 9, Eton Manor 14; Windsor 0, Newbury 24.

SOUTH WEST: Club matches: Ashley Down 25, Barton Hill 5; Avonmouth 58,

Bishopston 4; Backwell 12, Yatton 13; Barnstaple 14, Weston-super-Mare 12;

Bath CS 4. Warminster 22: Blagdon 40, Old Elizabethans 10; Bristol Utd 50,

Bournemouth 12; Bristol Harlequins 15,

Keunsham 24: Bristoi Saracens 13, Bristoi

Conserell 17; Casde Cary 9, Yot 22; Cheddar 12, Clavedon Util 16; Chelten-

ham 15. Stourbridge 8; Chippenham 16.

Devizes 10; Chipping Sodbury 20, Avon

15; Cleave 14, Old Redclifftens 7;

Clavedon 0, Dings Crusaders 18; Clifton 22. Blackheath 9; Cotham Park 9, North

Bristoi 37; Crewiteme O, Bridgweter Utd 10; Exeter 9, Gloucetter 36; Frome O.

Bridgweter 13; Hayle 6, Camborne 26:

moeriel 13. Aretians 10: Minehead 14,

sechones & Broad Plain O, Frampton

triumph for Ireland, notably for Hamilton, the NIFC flanker, who was prominent throughout. Well led by Leahy, they took the lead in the first first half with a penalty goal by McAleese and confirmed their advantage just after the interval when Clarke completed a forward surge.

McAleese added a second penalty goal and converted a try by Hernan as the seven Irish forwards consistently indicated their superiority.

SCORIERS: Ireland B: Tries: Clarks, Hernan, Conversion: McAlessa. Papalty goels: McAlesse (2).

IRELAND 5: C Wikinson (Malone); Hernan (University College, Dublin), D. Curtis (London Irish), J Clarice (Dolphin), R. Wallace (Garryowen): D McAleese (Ballymens), R Saunders (London Irish), P Soden (Constitution), J O'Riordes Constitution), P McCarthy (Constitution) Leahy (Wanderers, captain), M Galwey (Shannon), K Rigney (Greystones), G Hamilton (NIFC), B Robinson (Ballymena). SCOTLAND II: D Barrett (West of Scot-

land); N Gracian (London Scottish), C Redpath (Metross), S Michol (Selidric), S Porter (Majone); S McGauchie (Pontypool, 5 Jerdine (Glamorgan Wandeners) Jones (Goucester), H Roberts (London Scottish), B Robertson (Stirling County), S Reid (Boroughmuir), J Richardson (Edin-burgh Academicsis, capter), A Mac-denuid (Heriot's FP), I Smith (Gloucester), R Wainwright (Edinburgh Academicals). Reference S Griffiths (England).

WEEKEND RESULTS AND TABLES

International match Spain: Tries: Murson, Pers Puertes, Soutland: Tries: Tutalo (3), Oliver, McLean, Cronin, Welr. Consc Dods (4).

B international 16 Scotland Ireland: Tries: Clarks, Hernan, Coz: McAlesse. Pens: McAlesse (2). Heineken Welsh League Premier division

Cardiff: Pens: Williams (2), Dropped goat: Evens. Newbridge: Tries: Taylor, penalty try. Cons: Williams (2). Pens: Williams (2) Glamorgan W 13 Pontypridd Glassorgen Wanderera: Try: Goodfellow. Pens: Goodfellow (3). Postypridd: Tries; Macintoen (3), Hughes, Jones. Consc. Jenkins (3). Per: Jenkins. Dropped goal: **85 Abertillery**

Evens, P Devies, Williams, Moon, Jones, Detancy, S Davies, Coss: L Evans (4), Stephens. Peas: L Evens (2). Abertillery Try: penalty try. Con: Hayward. Pena Neath: Trine: Thortxum, Higgs. Come: Thorburn (2). 11 Bridgend Postypool: Tries: Jenidos, Phillips, Pers Parry, Bridgend: Try: Thomas, Com

0 215 110 20 168 133 17 202 150 First division

S Waigs Pol 23 Cross Kays POSTPONED: Ebbw Vale v Penarth: Newport v Massteg. Schweppes Weish Cup Fourth round Ammen Utd Club matches

Edinburgh W Exeter Gain Glasgow HK Edinburgh A 32 Chouceatte 36 Jac-Forest 10 Presson L 14 Broughton Ph () Ingrithampson 58 L Scottlan 28 Kendal 25 Basingstoke 4 Machesbrough 6 Headingley (Vade of Lure 25 Bristol 16 Hartoques 20 Wasps 50 Serecene 21 Huddersfield 6 Orred 24 Fylde 7

SCOTLAND: McDwen's League: Second division: Royal High 15, Kimsmock 10; Corstorphine 17, Dundee HSFP 7. Club Busiches: Aberdeen GSFP 15. Kirkcald 17; Claricators 13, Ayr 9; Currie 38, Biggar 3; Duntermine 10, Strling County 39; Haddington 13, Stewart's-Metville FP 20; Katso 29, Ainwick 16; Langholm 3, Biaydon 26; Watsonians 59, Portobello 8; Atsacow Academicals 27, Wigtownshire IRELAND: Leinster: Senior League: Blackrock Cotiege 38, Bective Rengers 9, Sentor club; Monkstown 15, Terenure College 14; Skerries 10, Athlone 0; Wanderers 28, St Mary's College 22; Lansdowne 49, DLSP 7, Uister Sealor Lianelli: Tries: Setero (3), I Evens (3), F club: City of Derry 32, Coleraine 18; Dungannon 27, CIYMS 19; Collegiana 18, Matone 31; Ballymene 14, Portadown 21; Instoniene 11, Bangor 37. Dudley Cup: Cueen's University 12, University College Cork 6. Municer: Senior club: Highfield 0, Sunday's Well 17; Garryowen 21, Old Crescent 10; Bonemians 4, Cloritari 3; LONDON AND BOUTH EAST: AUT CLOB Morts Table: Old Merchant Taylors' 33, Old Historiashers 4; Old Militains 38, Old Cranteignama 3; Old Pelhamians 23, Old Citierhamiens 4; Old Whiteilliums 31, Old Paulines () Bleley Office Equipment Mont Tuble: Havant 43, Satisbury 8. Untaye Morit Toble: Mexistone Ashears 7. Upper Clapton 7, Thurrock 32, Fullers Browery Middleson Merit Table: Succury Court 11, Grasshoppers 17; Uxbridge 4, London Zeeland 10. Herts Ment Table: Harbendan 7, Old Albanians 3. Club metches: Abbey 19. Meidenhead 8. Aldermaston 29. Overton 4; Alton 12. Guildford and Godesming 23; Batterpea Ironsides 28. Misrton 20; Beckenham 23, Sidoup Ex 1st 9; Betteshanger 30, Osel Wanderers 0; Bextey 22, Metropolitan Police. Hayes 0: Blue Harts 1, Broxbourne 4; Cantabrigiens 28, St Neots 8; Cheime-ford 33, Chingford 0; Chichester 21, Eastleigh 21; Chophem 38, Phoentx 18; Cophem 38, Wimpledon 6; Colchester 29, Maldon 4; Cranleigh 41, Bognor 0; Descrivorth 27, Dunstablians 27; Dover 8, Thenes Wanderers 13, East Grinstond 10, Hove 13, Eren 46, STC 3; Haringey 4, Ord Elizabethans 14; Hastings and Sexhill 56, Hettinglay & Henson 0, Bacaviana 3; Herriay 48, Marlow 3; Herritord 9, Cheshung 23; Histone 4, Lestinworth 43; KCS Old Boys 21, Old Freemen 18; Kibworin 3, Wellingborough 22, Leighton Buzzero 26 Luiton 6 Medway 14, Canter-bury 0: Metropolean Police, Chigwell 0, Herlow 74, Northumpton Casuels 36, Buckingham 6, Non-Iron 12, Lowestoff 6, Ors Coffmans 10 Old Welcounters 9, Old Emanuel 31, Old Gaylonians 19; Old Juddens 11, Westcombe Park 24; Old Michightons 32, Chemon Park 8, Old Shootershellens 21, Bromtey 21; Old Verulamians 57, Esse London 4; Old Wimpledonians 14, Old Blues 10, Osterley

6, Harrow 29, Oxford 16, Sidcup 3. Oxford

ham Anchorages 10; States Wanderers 0,

Sternes 31, Brackmeil 9; Sudbury Court 11

Wellington 12: Morganians 3, Wells 27: Newquey Hornets 6, Rednith 20; Old Ashsoniens 9, Kingswood 7; Old Sullans 15, Old Bristollens 19; Paignton 3, Otenamoton 23: Pentyn 42, Exmouth 6: St Bernadette's Old Boys 66, St Brendan's Old Boys 4; St Ives 30, Penzance and Newtyn 7; South West Gas 6. Midsomer Norton 9; Tauston 20, Twerton 18: Totnes 8, Torquey Ath 24; Walcot 0, Oldfield 39; Weston Utd 57, Winacombe 3. Courage Clabs Champ-leaship: Comwell: First division: Liskeard 10. Falmouth 0. IORTH: Club matches: Ambieside 19 Greengarth 3: Ashington 15, Morpeth 3: Ashton on Mersey 17, Sedgley Park 10: Ashton-under-Lyne 0, Burninge 31; Berwick 12, Rockcliff 0; Beverley 9, Driffield 0: Beverley 9, Driffield 0: Beverley 9, Driffield 0: Beverley 9 26; Blyth 10. Horden 14; BP Chemicals : Hullensians C: Bradford and Bingley 1 Morley 9: Bramley 33. Acidam 0: Bury 13. Navion-le-Willows 3: Carlese 58, Pennth 12; Carmforth 13, Fleetwood 7; Castle College 28. Mosborough 13; Castletord 10, Knottingley 0; Chester 25, Devenport 8; Cleckheston 19, Goole 13; Crewe and Namwich 31, Stackburn 18; Darlington 13, Percy Park 9; Olymhodton 8, Market Rasen 24; Dutumfield O. Littleborough O; East Rettord 22, Sheffield Tigers 28; Eccles 6, Ruskin Park 21; Egnemore 13, Worldington 3; Grimsby 6, Hull and ER 18; Halifax 21. Kaighley 32; Heaton Moor 8, Bowdon 9; Heasia 17, Malton and Norton 38; Hornsen 13, Marist 13; Huddersfield YMCA 7, Barneley 12; Hull forlians 39, Old Hymerians 7; likely 16, Harrogate XV 6; Kersal 8, Olchem 4; Leigh 8, Newbold on Avon 17; Macclusfield 18, De la Salle Old Boys (Sallord) 25; Manchester YMCA 6, Glossop 25; Mattlock 18, Old Brockelens 20; Moore 25, Congliston 12; Moortown 22, Roundhay Trojans 3; Moresby 7, Whitehaven 0; Moviden Park 9, Winiston Mulerers 3; Northellerton 19, Scerbory inh Vuicens 3; Northelierton 19, Scarborough 4; North Durham 12, Houghton 3; North Ribolesdale 4, Bradions Selem 10; North Shields 14, Pomestand 0; Novocastinana 9, Northern 53: Old Aldwiniana 7, Sandbach 13: Old Angelmens 28, Caldy 7; Old Crossigyens 22, Northwich 70; Old Moderniums 15, Leeds YMCA 6: Old Odlenswins 10, West Park Brainhops 34; On Sations 30, Wilmstow 9: Ormstork 24, Old Partignans 6: Popularition 3, Thomensians 17: Port Sunlight 4, Broughton Park XV 29; Presson Grasshoppers 3, Wigen 24. Rochaste 24, West Leeds 4; Rocillians 36, Heath 7; Rossandale 46, Didsbury Tog H 0; Rotherham 33, Donnaster 9; Roundhegists 11, Ripon 4; Setton 6, Merzeyside Police 24, Skipton 6, Baildon Old Boys 21, Swendon 3: Peterstield 7. Portemouth 29, Pinner and Grammerians 22, Enfett ignations 7: Seracons Crusad-15: Stafford '10, Manchester 48; ers 19, Teberd 7; Sevenceits 29, Gitting-Stocksprings 9, Buston 16; Stockton 27, Ryton 8; Sunderland 9, Bustop Auckland 20; Tytickstey 17, Birchifeld 0; Tytickstey 16, Durham City 20; Upper Eden 19, Kirkby Lonedale XV 0; Vickers 50, Milliom Old Beccenamens 15; Slough 3, High Wycombe 23; Southend 32, Ipswich 0; St Alberts 13, Resetth Manor Old Boys 39; 6; Warrington 12, Lymm 32; West Harde-pool 56, Gateshood Fell 9; West Park (St Helens) 6, St Edwards OB 19; Winnesday Grasshoppers 17: Tunbridge Wells 11, Purley 4: Uckfield S8, St Francis 6: University Vandals 16, Tutckenham 9:

Hills 5. Wath 8; Whitby 7, Guisborough 26; Wildnes 33, New Brighton D; Wigton 15. Nathernall 10: Windermare 11. Cockermouth 7: Winnington Park 7, Birkenhead Park 3; Winni 18, Whichurch 48; Yambury 9, Westnerby 3; York 15, Bridlingson 9; York RI 14, Selby 35. Yerkshire Silver Trophy: First (et Ponte-fract): Old Rismworthians 11, Burley 3. MEDIANOS: Club unatches: Banbury 14, Everheim 20; Barkers Butts 12, Sudbury 18: Birchfield 19, Witton 25 Birmingham/Solihulf 14, Worcester 13; Camp Hit 22, Bromagrove 7; Chaitenham 15, Stourbridge 9; Corby 10, Aylestonians Newcestia 11; Ductiey 25. Derby 16; Edwardians 18, Yardley and District 14; Kattering 6, Ampthilf 8; Kibworth 20, Wellingborough 4; Kings Norton 3, Old Halesonians 8; Leamington 38 Stockwood Park 7; Leigh B, Newbold-on-Avon 17: Long Eston 9, Old Newtonians 13; Ludlow 28, Bridgmorth 10; Lutterworth 25, Nuneaton OE 0; Market Bosworth 8, Mowbray 3, Old Bosworthians 15; Moderns 32, Nottingham Casuals 10; Northampton OS 24, Biggleswade 20; Nottinghamians 16, New Parks Old Boys 14; Northampton Trinity 20, Old Northamptonians 3; Old Coventrians 12, Old Wheatiyans 0: Old Centrals Erdington 4; Old Laurentians 10, Broad Street 12: Oiney 3, Bedford Athletic 9; Old Moseleians 14, Claverdon 6; Ounde 43, Cutier Hammer 0; Old Warwickians 32, Rugby Weish 3; Parshora 6, Vessyans 7; Shipston-on-Stour 30. Stratford-upon-Avon 0; Spertans 9. Aston Old Edwardians 17; Standard 3, Manor Perk 28; Stoneygets 15. Mansfield 3, Towcestrians 60. Bugbrooke 3; Trinty Gulid 40. West Leicester 0, West Bridgiord 7, Paviors 62; Westleigh 23, Oedby Wyggestonsins 3; Woodnush 25, Drokwich 6 Szaffordenie Cup: Second round: Watsali 9, Burton 10: Wilenhau 20, Lichfield 14.

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O'Neill

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Recent history offers England hope

From Alan Lee, cricket correspondent, melbourne

ENGLAND are staggering towards the Boxing Day Test match in a state of chaos. Seldom, if ever, can an England side have been so demeaned on the field and so decimated in the dressingroom at such a critical stage of an Ashes tour.

and award the series to Australia. There seems no escape. And yet, more than two months out of Heathrow and submerged by misery, the back. fact is that England have still only played one Test match. Now, they face four in six weeks, and it would be a fool who stated they were incapable of winning one.

England's problems stem from the malfunctioning of crucial players, either through fitness or form, and the dispiriting effect on others. It has dragged them down, inflated their inferiority.

we want them to be but neither are they the team they appear to be. They are an average side playing appallingly, and only the potential to do better sustains hope.

The portents are not encouraging for a fulfilment of that potential before what may very well be a full bouse at the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG) on Wednesday morning. The rebuilding of the southern stand has seriously reduced the capacity but 65,000 curious souls may Australian believes can be

squeeze in to witness what no the morning of the match. He Melbourne is a lucky

By SIMON WILDE

THE idea of England starting their Melbourne Test match on Boxing Day, where the second Fest with Australia begins on Wednesday, is a recent one. It has benefited both the coffers of the Australian Cricket Board and, so far, England's fortunes

on the field. The first time an Ashes match opened on Boxing Day was in 1974, when there was a crowd of more than 77,000, the largest verified first-day attendance for any Test; the whole match was watched by more than a quarter of a million people. The experiment was confirmed a success when it was repeated in 1982. the first day drawing 64,000 and the match nearly 215,000. Four years ago, the opening day attracted more than 58,000 but the overall figure was spoilt when Australia failed to take the match into a fourth day.

On each of these occasions. England raised their game, as though being away from home over the Christmas period had concentrated the minds of the anything other than a ritual mauling of the Poms. England's first and most

locate 11 men fit enough to represent them. There was a moment, in Ballarat yesterday, when it began to seem that the fates had deemed it It is tempting to dismiss beyond them. Graham their prospects here and now, Gooch, rallying his depleted troops at practice, turned to retrieve a ball only to be hit on the head by it as an overzealous small boy threw it

> Gooch's sense of humour remains commendably intact and he was able to tell the story against himself last night. The more serious side of the day, however, emerged in the form of bospital x-rays for both himself and David Gower after they were hit on finger and wrist respectively, while batting against Victoria.

> Both were cleared of any fractures but neither was free already reading Lamb (calf), Small (thigh), John Morris (hand) and Lewis (back) and the selection of England's team begins to look a straightforward matter of choice by

Small, whose finest hour in Test cricket came with five wickers in the corresponding match here four years ago, is the only player already discounted from serious consideration. Lamb's situation is being monitored constantly and no decision is likely until does, however, have a tear in

Almost as unknown a quantity as England's selection is ground for England the Melbourne pitch. The roguish, uneven wickets of the early 1980s have been banished and the latest re-laying work on the square is said to touring players. Perhaps there is have left the best batting encouragement here for Graham Gooch and his players in conditions seen here for many the forthcoming match.

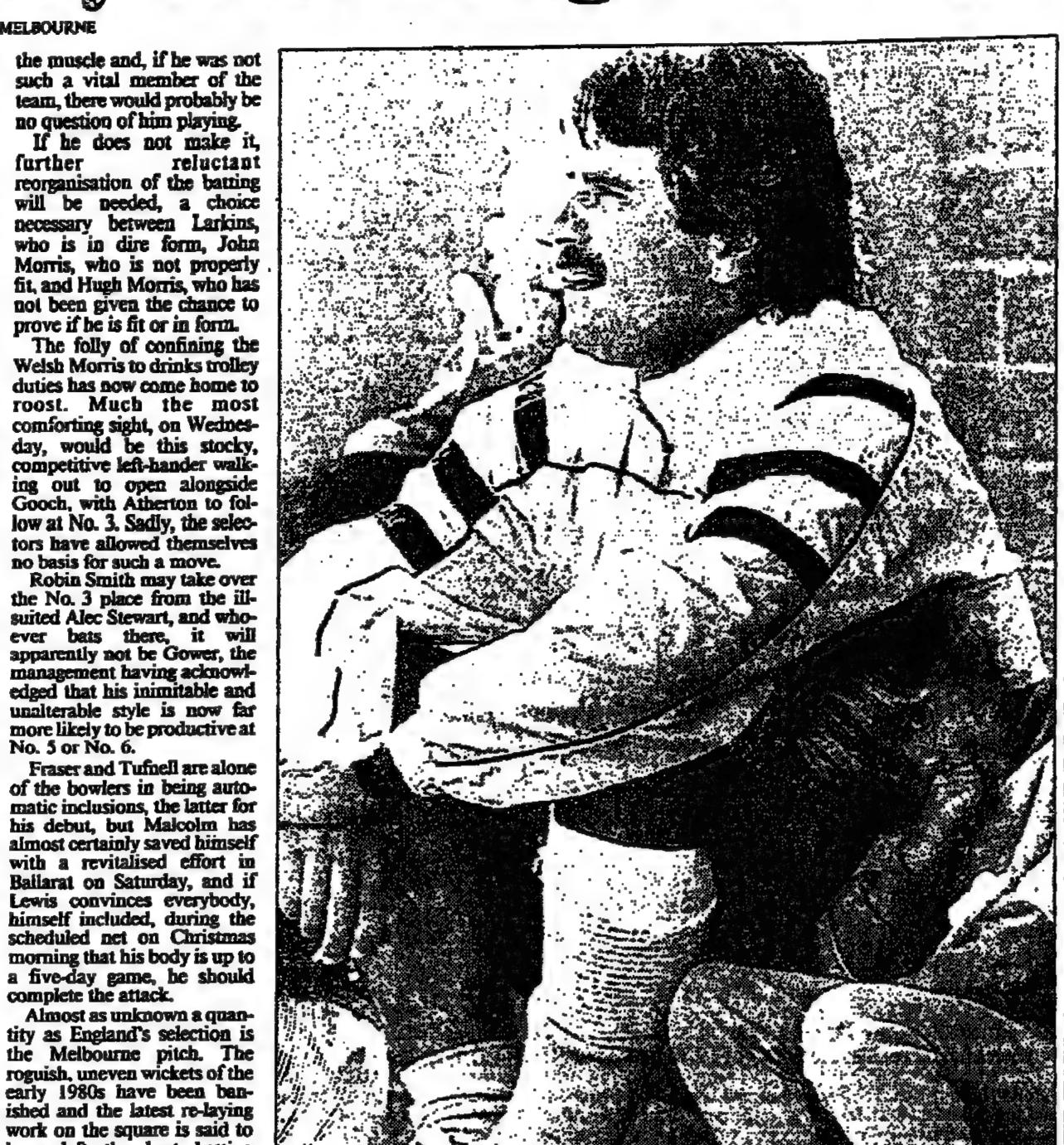
complete the attack.

No. 5 or No. 6.

no basis for such a move.

The sides of Mike Denness, in England will need convinc-974-5, and Bob Willis, in 1982ing of such luxuries, but if they were scarcely less beleaguered are seeking solace in statistics, than Gooch's. Both went into here are two for them to the Melbourne Test two down ponder over the mince pies. in the series and little going right Of the past 12 Tests on their for them. headquarters ground, Austra-Denness's team gave a spirited performance in a thrilling lia have won only two. And draw that ended with Australia Dean Jones, presently the pineight runs from victory with two up who can do no wrong, has a wickets standing; Willis's side, Test average of 18 on his after almost letting the match slip from their grasp, won an home ground.

even more breathtaking game Oh, and one more memory the Australians will not relish. by three runs. Four years ago, England won No ground has staged more inside three days at the MCG, Ashes Tests than Melbourne, with 48 (England have won i8, and with it they won the Ashes Australia 23). They have been to widespread surprise. staged as early as December 22 Stranger things have hapand as late as April 4 but for long pened in this game than an the tradition was for the game to emulation of that perforbegin on New Year's Day. That, mance this week; sadly, it too, was often a day when needs a vivid imagination.



Allan Lamb is joined by his daughter, Kitty, aged 3, watching England ENGLAND AND AUSTRALIA TEST RECORDS

Australia — Batting and fielding D M Jones ____ 174 55

GRJ Menthews 600.21737 40 43.42 CG Rackemenn 424.21028 39 26.35 B A Reid _____ 707.11929 67 28.79 S.R. Waugh 017.21827 44 41.52

England — Batting and fielding

G A Gooch 119.3 717 15 47.80 E E Hemmings ... 666.31626 37 43.94 C C Lewis 121 466 12 38.63 D E Melcoim 460.21515 43 35.23 G C Small 536.31517 49 30.95 ALSO BOWLED: D | Gower 6-0-20-1; A J Liento 5-0-23-1 Compiled by Ted Corbet
 M P Bicknell and P C R Tufnell have not played Test cricket.

BASKETBALL

Bucknall told to adjust as Sunderland falter

By Nicholas Harling

STEVE Bucknall, one of the Elderkin, will have no trouble players most seriously affected by the latest cash difficulties to hit Sanderland Saints, is suffering another crisis, on court. Less than three months after

his much-beralded arrival from Los Angeles Lakers, with whom he just failed to make the grade in the National Basketball Association, Bucknall found himself confined to the bench for most of the second half of Saturday's Carlsberg League fix-ture at Bracknell, where Sunderland went down 106-101 to Thames Valley Tigers. "He wasn't doing it for the

team and that makes it very hard to win the game," Dave Elderkin, the coach, said. "He has got to learn that he is not going to win games for us from one on five situations. Obviously be has got to make adjustments and until he does so, he will be hurting the team." The 6ft 5in Bucknall, aged 24, who failed to make the expected impact for England recently in his first three internationals, could only look on for the most part as Sunderland made good an 11-point deficit to come back into contention at 75-74. But three successive three-pointers by Jenkins (20 points), playing in spite of a broken nose inflicted accidentally by his

corresponding fixture last week, decisively regained the initiative to bring revenge for Tigers. Saunders (34 points). Vaughan (20) and Peter Scantlebury (19) were all exempted from Elderkin's criticism, but not Paterson (13), who allowed Roberts (23 points and 14 rebounds) the space for too many "second shots".

colleague Daie Roberts in the

Sunderland, according to **DRUGS IN SPORT** Top Germans to be tested

each fortnight BONN (Reuter) - Leading German athletes will be dope tested every fortnight next year, the German Athletic Association (DLV) said yesterday. This will apply to all athletes likely to qualify for the world championships in Tokyo next August. As well as these dope tests every 14 days, the random tests will conunue and athletes competing at Land (state) championship level will eventually be included.

After a weekend meeting in Frankfurt, DLV chiefs also said they would investigate German media allegations that several top athletes had taken performance-enhancing drugs.

fulfilling their obligation at the World Invitation Club Championships, which start at Crystal Palace this week. The tournament has been hit by three withdrawals, but Sunderland's temporary loss of support from a sponsor will not make them the fourth, "The players received a significant amount of money on Friday." Elderkin said. "It was not a little gesture

was brought down by the goalvery hard to make sure the keeper. Unfortunately, she players have the balance sooner chose to change the habit of a ather than later." career, sending the ball to the One player certainly suffering no lack of balance is Kingston's new American, Lorenzo Duncan, whose latest virtuoso performance brought him 11 points and countless others for his team-mates. "I'm not in shape yet but I'm getting there." he said after the League leaders had routed Derby 106-69 with

and the chairman is working

the help of 27 points from Cunningham. Leicester defeated Worthing 94-89 in spite of 33 points from Heron and Manchester made light of the absence of St Kitts and Obaseki - in the United States - to beat London Docklanda 102-82

CARLEBERG LEAGUE: First division Kingston 106 (Cummohem 27, Clark 22, Gordon 19), Derby Rams 69 (Lea 20, Lescelles 15), Lecester City Riders 94 (Waldron 20, Harris 19), Worthing Bears 69 (Heron 33, South 12); London Docklands 82 (Cole 19, Kumar 15, Beiley 11), Manchester Clarks 102 (Kearney 34, Pages 25, Miller 12, Response 10); Therese Penny 25, Miller 12, Remeey 10); Themes Valley Tigers 106 (Roberts 23, Jenkins 20, James 19, R Scartlebury 18, Heyles 14), Sunderland Scients 101 (Saunders 34, Yaughan 20, P Scantlebury 19, Paterson 13. Bucknall 10. Second division: Broxbourne 96, Phymouth 99; Cheshire 91, Brixton 75; Coventry 77, Manchester 72; Oldham 75, Doncaster 81. Third civision: Leicester 79, Fyide 78, Poet-

poned: Chestare v North London.

Figure Misting. MOTORCYGLING: Screensport 19.30-

MOTOR SPORT: Screenwort 18.00-19.00, 21,30-22.30 and 23.30-00.30: Indy

Cart review, world raily championehips and souring care grand prix. Eurosport 19.00-20.00.

left and wide of the target. At half-time, the Sutton bench EAGUE: First division: Old Loughtoniene 1, Teddington 2; Southgatg 3, Slough 2; Havant 4, Waketield 1; Neston 5, Isca 3, Second division: Quidford 0, Cambridge City 1.

Chapetown 1, Appleby Frodinghem 0; Cheemam HR 1, Booington 3; Driffield 2, York C\$ Trojens 0; Formby 4, Liverpool

Prescot 1, Wigan 0; Reccar 6, Writon (Sale 1, West Derby 0; Stazengers Bingley 2: South Shields 4, S. George's 1: Southport 1, Presson 3; Sungerland 2, Darlington 1; Swalwell 3, Durham Coy 1: memouth 4. Tynedale 2: Bank of England 1. Berkleyheath 2: Blueharts 1. Storbourne 4: Challont 1. Richings Pt. 2: Chelmsford 5. Brentwood 1. Grimsby 3. Woodall Spa 2: Old Southendians 0. Westchif 2. Old Williamsonians 3. Old Mid-Whethars 1. BUTTERMEN INDOOR LEAGUE: Promier

LEAGUE: Hightown 1, Sutton Coidfield 1.

All Box No. Replies should be sent to Box Number Box No. Dept., P.O. Box 484 Virginia Street, Wapping, London, E1 9DD

SPORT ON TV

POWERSPORTS INTERNATIONAL: Screensport 07:00-08:00 AMERICAN FOOTBALL: Eargeport 21 00-22 00: College metch. BASEBALL: Eurosport 07.30-08.30; Ma-RACING: Screensport 08.00-03.00. 853 23.30-midnight: Recing news. RUGBY LEAGUE: BSS 15.30-17.00: Regal EASKETBALL: Eprosport 09.00-10.00. Cup. RUGBY UNION: Screensport 10,00-12,00; Europeen Cup. BILLIARDS: Europport 22.00-23.00: Three-custion world cup. From Toulouse. Signed: Screensport 15.00-18.00: Pro-BOXING: Screensport 20,00-21.30: Pro-fessional event. BSB 22.30-23.30: SHOCKER: Screensport 16.00-18.00: Florimans challenge. SPORTEDESK: BSS 13.25, 18.00, 19.30, Superbouts. CYCLING: Eurosport 10,00-11,00: 8b 22.00 and mighight. SURFRIG: Eurosport 11 00-12.00. TENRIS: Surosport 12.30-16.30: 1990 review. BSB 20.00-22.00 and 00.30-02.30 Cay race ECUESTRIANISM: C4 11.25-12.30; Blon helm three-day international. EUROSPORT NEWS: Eurosport 18.30-(ADMORTOW): 1990 review. YACHTING: Screensport 09.00-10.00. 19:00 and 23:00-23,30. POOTBALL: 838 13.30-15.30: Soptish league. Europeart 16.30-16.30: World Cup highlights.
ICE HOCKEY: Screensport 12.00-14.00: United States v Soviet Union, Europeart. 20.00-21 00: National Hockey Langua. ICE SKATING: Screensport 22.30-23.30:

MERICAN SPORT: 855 16.00-17.00. BASEBALL: Eurosport 07:30-08:30; Mo-lor League from the United States BILLIARDS: Eurosport 11:00-12:00: Three-cushion world cup
BOXING: Screensport 07.00-08.30 and
15.30-17.00.
EQUESTRIANTSM: Surpeport 15.3017.30 European Community Trooby
POOTBALL: Screensport 10.00-11.00:

GOLF: Screensport 08.30-09.00 and 23.00-01.00. European young masters. ICE HOCKEY: Screensport 11,00-13.09 and 18 00-20.00 National Hockey Loacue, and United States v Soviet Union. ICE SKATING: ITV 14.00-15.00 and Eurosport 20.00-21.00: Torvit and Dean

gala performance. INTERNATIONAL MOTOR SPORT: Euroeport 10.00-11.00, JUDO: European 21 CO-21.30; European Championships. MOUNTAINEERING: Eurosport 17.30-13 00 Ascent of The Matternom.

MOTOR SPORT: 858 20 00-21.55 and medalight-02.00: 1990 review. POWERSPORTS INTERNATIONAL Sereeneport 20.00-21.00. Grand: Screensport 17 00-18 00: World Cup. Eurosport 22 00-23.00; Gross coun-Dy Overy from France. SMCOKER: Sereonaport 13.00-15.00 and SPORTSDESK: 803 13.25, 19.55, 21.55 TENNES: Eurosport 12.30-16.30 and 2 00-medright: 1950 review, and Chris Ever they 839 17.00-17.65 and 22.00-

Grimley provides AFC OF FINA cutting edge in keen encounter By Sydney Friskin

A CARNIVAL atmosphere surrounded the Neston Recreation Centre where the home side and Isca strove for vital points vesterday in the Poundstretcher National League.

Neston's more penetrating cowers proved decisive late in everything they had into a assault. Grimley emerged with four goals (two from penalty strokes) and Robert Skinner, long forgotten by

Neston took the field without Edwards and Robbie Smith, but Isca's ranks looked more depleted, Johnson, O'Sullivan, Darhout-Mees and Andy Batch-

Grimley began the scoring converting a penalty stroke after he had been hindered by a stick

Isca retaliated in the 28th minute by forcing a short corner, which Skinner converted with the belp of a deflection. Grimley put Neston ahead again

five minutes after the interval, converting their first short corner with a brilliant flick into the

Nesion then began a brief period of ascendency in which Pidcock and Cutter set up Grimley, who put them 3-

But Isca tackled with renewed vigour and earned a penalty stroke for a stick tackle, which Skinner converted in the 57th minute. Within three minutes there was a penalty stroke at the other end, where Cutter was brought down by the goalkeeper. and Grimley put Neston 4-2

With only four minutes left, Skinner scored from a short corner with a deflection off the goalkeeper. But Neston struck again to dash Isca's hopes, Cutter coming through on the left to steer the ball past Rea, who seemed to lose his balance For Neston it was only their third win in eight matches, while Isca were left with only

one victory to their credit. ISCA: T Reg: K Baker, A Free, M Bre McEwart, R Skinner, G Slenner. Moutam, D Cross. Usprires: C Todd (Northern Counties) and

Havant dig in and Southgate climb

HAVANTS 4-1 home win yesterday over Wakefield left them firmly at the head of the Poundstretcher National League first division table, five points clear of Indian Gymkhana who have two games in hand, potentially worth six points (Sydney Friskin writes). Don Williams and Robert Hill drew level at the top of the scorers list with Kulbir Bhaura, of Indian Gymkhana, with a total of ten goals, Williams scoring twice yesterday for Havant Hill and Garcia adding to the score. Wakefield's goal was scored by Ataila Pietro on the

hour from a short corner. Spectators left Broom Road on Saturday convinced they had seen a revitalised Southgate side capable of challenging the best after their 3-2 win over Slough. Eric Castenskiold, a replacement for a sick Kerly, scored the

second goal for Southgate and had a hand in the other two. Slough exerted early pressure before Southgate scored in the thirteenth minute with a goal by Welch, Slough lost the opportunity to square the match when

Nicklin squandered a penalty

stroke after which Southgate were reduced to nine men with both Welch and Spray being temporarily suspended. Welch for dissent and Spray for a questionable tackle.

Seven minutes into the second half, Gisborne, a replacement for Welch, provided Castenskiold with a chance to score Southgate's second goal Barber converted a short corner for Slough three minutes later but Gisborne, combining with Castenskiold, put Southgate 3-1 head. Two minutes before the end, Barber converted another short corner for Slough. Southeate's win pushed them up to sixth place.

A goal by Krishman in the ninth minute proved unavailing for Old Loughtonians who lost 2-1 at home to Teddington Benzies squared the match for Teddington in the 15th minute but Blan won the match with a late goal from a short corner.

Cambridge City's 1-0 win over Guildford gave them pack leadership of the second division. Edgar scored from open play in the 48th minute.

Sutton pay the penalty for a harsh challenge

By ALIX RAMSAY

felt a change was needed. Lisa THE much talked about professional foul has a lot to answer for. It was just such an insweeper to midfield and Sian Roberts was brought on to take discretion that cost First Personher defensive role. But it had nel Sutton Coidfield a penalty been Bayliss who had provided stroke and the match against the telling passes from the back Hightown on Saturday.

to set up the Sutton attack and While Sutton are now doomed to the relegation zone, the switch did not help their Hightown move up into second place behind the defending Lee was leading the charge for champions, Slough, in the Hightown when she was pushed Typhoo women's national

The match, so important to both sides, did not live up to expectations and neither did

off the ball by Caroline Brewer. The umpire felt Lee had a clear chance on goal and signalled a penalty stroke. Sutton were Sutton. They have not played anything but happy but could enough together as a team and it only watch as Jackie Crook celebrated her return to league showed. Their moment came, and went, in a patchy first half.

Jane Sixsmith had a chance to action after injury by slotting the ball home. give Sutton the lead, stepping up to take a penalty stroke after 22 minutes when Ruth Pilkington

But while Hightown had begun their Christmas celebrations early, they know that they have their work cut out if they are to challenge for the title. In the new year, they face their toughest games of the season against Leicester and the all-powerful

Then came the foul. Fiona

WEEKEND HOCKEY RESULTS

ERNST AND YOUNG MIDLAND LEAGUE: Premier division: Kidderminster 1, Barlord Tipers 6; Leicester Westleigh 3, John Player 2. TIPP-EX YORKSHIRE LEAGUE: Bartisey 2. Adel 3.
CLUB MATCHEB: Droftwich 1, Stratford 3;
Edgbaston 0. Pickwick 0; Kidderminster 1.
Streetly 5; Nuneeton 5. Rugby 2; Old
Wilfrunians 3, Tamworth 0; Stone 2,
Aldridge 1; Tenbury 1, Pershore 0; Walsell
5. GEC Atsthorn 2; Alderley Edge 1,
Brooklands 0; Billingham 0, Stockton 3;
Bowdon 5, Manchesser YiliCA 2;
Chapperown 1. Applety Employment

Setton 1: Hightown-Northern 0, Deeside Ramblers 1: Huddersheld 0, She'held 2: Knutsford 3, Disley 2: Macclecheld 4, Runcorn 2: Morpeth 1, Guisborough 0;

division: East Gonstead 9. Khalaa 4: St Albans 3, Bromley 5; St Albans 6, Khalaa TYPHOO WOMEN'S NATIONAL

Breeder Commence Park in Nevertour not lanconer - Jananer Puprasented a fairmaile de ines the merity once in the first and a cole Med he shall manifely the most rame with many the Well by the later ship bearing in the ber South Players, Association of the information of th The particular of the property the fine upper ing there is seen the me

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Personalities of a colourful

Scobie Breasley, who won Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe O'Bnen on Ballymoss, had

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THE STREET

then late that the

long forgotten loosed man as son. O'same and Andy Batter 20212:12:16. 1:

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Marie Company 1 Page. A STATE OF THE September -18 3 B 1 . 27 C T S 24. F 1.1 5 K-25 + THE RESERVE LABOR. 5 M A . T. क्षरते । १५

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grand to the second sec

until eight days after the date for World Open ahangir said he phoned A in advance to tell them withdrawal from three

nents because of health igir criticised the ISPA ing playing members as ident and chairman. "A member has jealousy,"

igir, the winner of a nine British Open titles, would go into intense Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe for

RUGBY LEAGUE

cutting edge ure of final berth keen en fails to excite on day for shopping

KEITH MACKLIN

man consigned to the supermarket trolthe last shopping before Christmas he folly of scheduling a ture for such a day. who preferred the

at counter to the

ley turnstile proved it certainly the lack of ere provided by a tttendance of fewer 000 influenced the who at times seemed ting a charade in this Trophy semi-final han competing for an

can be no doubt that ms had the desire to was simply that, in drab and unreal ate the spark never

Pern were unable to te fierce concentration mmitment that had Wigan. The Hornets, brief early flourish

which almost got Garrity in at over for the first Northern try. the corner, eventually fumbled their way into disarray, 0. gave away a soft try, and showed none of the inspiration that shocked Castleford.

Once Northern were ahead there was a grim inevitability about the proceedings. The Hornets fluttered fitfully, but deep down one always felt that they lacked the speed and the class to upset even a chugging Northern. Even in the closing minutes, with a glut of possession, the Horners buzzed dementedly before the Bradford line without produc-ing a semblance of a try-scoring opportunity. Perhaps provided at half back by Iti their suspended New Zea-

Whitfield and Abram produced any threat to Northern. Innumerable passes were dropped by both sides, some in the most basic of moves. The most crucial error came from the Hornets prop, Cowie, who ruined an excellent first 20 minutes of charging runs by losing possession on his own line,

Hobbs converted to make it 8-

Whitfield landed a goal to make it 8-2 at half-time. In the second half, the introduction of Holding momentarily goaded Hornets into action, but Northern sealed a final place against Warrington or Widnes at Headingley with one of the few pieces of open rugby. The ball went swiftly through half a dozen hands to give Shelford a gentle canter

they missed the influence of and Summers. Iti was obviously unfit and Summers had lander, Mark Nixon. Only an unusually quiet match before both were substituted. SCORERS: Bradford Northern: Tries: Fairbank, Shellord, Goele: Hobbs (2).

ERADFORD MORTHERN: D Moston; G. Cordie, D Shattord, R Simpson, T Marchant; N Summers (sub: C Richards), B Iti (sub: P Heiliwell); D Hobbs, B Noble, J Hamer, P Medley, K Fahrbunk, J-Pondiebury.

ROCHDALE HORNETS: C. Whitfield; B. Garrity, D. Abram, M. Lord, P. Fox (subt. R. Hatt); R. Grogen, S. Gatbraith; N. Cowle, M. Hall, J. Blackburn, M. O'Nelli, T. Humphries, M Viller (sub: N Holding). allowing Fairbank to charge

eeds' rally comes too late

Park has always ogy ground for Leeds, Yorkshiremen made ill-fated trip over the yesterday (Keith

writes). arged of nearly 15,000 saw and last, but in Wigan dominated the took their chances to tries in a 22-16 The scoreline was disa late but unavailing Leeds in which they Gallagher emphasised

tinuing improvement "player of international in rugby league as well is accepted status in litty giving Leeds the lead early try. Then Wigan rge. The pick of their was scored by Hanley, typically powerful inburst over 25 metres. --- closing minutes, Bented down for Leeds, and - final movement of the - i... - - llagher got his second chased a kick through. added both goals, but

only other first division Sheffield Eagles came and depressing beat St Helens 18-7. In

ASH RACKETS

istralian

ises in

ie ranks

.=N Lambourne, who was

versially dropped from

istralian squad that lost

rid team final to England

... o second place on the

"ber, was promoted from

ranking list issued this

by the Women's Inter-

Jal Squash Players

bourne dominated the

· American women's cir-

nich came after the world

ionships in Sydney and

re recognised as the top

1 player - at least until

orld champion, Susan

of New Zealand, returns

Opie, England's leading

e Le Moignan fifth, Su-

Horner seventh and Ali-

imings tenth ahead of a

Wright, the former Eng-

inior captain, continued

... ance among the seniors, hree places to fourteenth.

DP 20 (England unless otherwise S Devoy (NZ); 2. R Lambourne Opie; 4. D Drady (Aus); 5. M Le 6. L Irving (Aus); 7. S Horner; 8. (Aus); 9. S FitzGerald (Aus); 10, s: 11, L Soutter; 12, R Best (Ire); ves; 14, S Wright; 15, J Williams

B Hoogendoom (Neth); 17, S 3er); 18, H Wattsce (Can); 19, N 8); 20, D Newton (NZ).

hangir will

opeal over

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nposed by the Inter-

J Squash Players' Associ-

ISPA) for withdrawing

onship in Toulouse.

I he was was a victim of

Il not pay the fine until

SPA fined Jahangir £500

peal is heard by the

Jahangir said. He

si month's World Open

e duty in February.

.. - 'dropped to third place in

- VISPA rankings, with

of five Britons.

COLIN McQUILLAN

doing so they cast further doubt over the future of the St Helens coach, Mike McClennan, who seems unable to lift his team. At one stage victory seemed

unlikely when St Helens led 8-4 with two tries by Devine and Quirk against two goals by Mycoe. However, Aston, who has been badly missed by Eagles, inspired his side. Mycoe landed another goal and Aston dropped As Eagles took charge, Mycoe

crowned a fine personal performance with a try in the corner, and in the last minute the New Zealand international, Panapa, finished off a break by Powell, and Mycoc landed the goal to thunderous cheers, the second division Ryedale Yerk, Carlisle and

promotion points, although it would have been the shock of the day had Ryedale York failed against hapless Runcorn. Carlisle were 5-4 down against Batley, but produced a brilliant six-try second-half display, prompted by the New Zealand half back, Friend. Another New Zealander, Okesene, scored two tries and was

the man of the match.

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: First division: Sheffield 18, St Helens 8; Wigen



Leigh picked up valuable

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL

Troubles mount for Wealdstone

By WALTER GAMMIE

Wealdstone ...

Chelmstord City 3 CHELMSFORD embarrassed Wealdstone into submission well before the finish of their Beazer Homes League premier division match.

Two fouls by Harrison, the first a last ditch desperation measure after the goalkeeper was beaten and the second wholly unnecessary, brought Jarvis first-half chances from the penalty spot. He put away the first but only scored after following up his second, blocked by Coles. Straight after halftime, Goyette gave away the ball and Lemoine crashed in

Chelmsford's third. "It was a shambles," Alan Clifton, the chairman, said, while Brian Hall, the man he has persuaded back as Wealdstone manager, lectured behind closed dressing-room doors. Clifton's only instruction for Hall was to cut the paid staff from 21 to 17.

Clifton said: "I've known Brian" for a number of years and we've had a good relationship. I think be has as much faith in me as I bave in him."

> Wealdstone are determined to sell Lower Mead, estimating they will get £6.5-£7 million. Negotiations are proceeding with Harrow and Brent councils but the price of alternative sites has been too high. Clifton is certain Hall can

raise the playing profile of a club that won renown under his managership for lifting the FA Trophy and Gola League double in 1984-5, the year before automatic promotion to the Football League was introduced. Even then, average attendances were only 960. "I wonder sometimes if the town deserves the club," Clifton said.

WEALDSTONE: D Coles; I Waugh (sub: D Glpp), M Johnson, S Tapley, M Harrison, L Donnellan, P Morris, P Goyette (sub: S Smart), T Kelly, C Browne, B Blackman. CHELIASFORD CITY: C Lewington; P Daley, C Johnson, M Stead, W May, P Jarvis, A Lemoine (sub: R Rooke), S Butter, Dennis Greene, David Greene, M

SECOND DIVISION: Batley 9, Carlisle 38; Bramley 12, Doncaster 14; Chorley 10, Keighley 14; Huddersfield 52, Whitshaven 18: Leigh 40, Barrow 4; Nottingham City 6, Dewsbury 38; Ryadale York 34, Runcom 0; Workington 22, Hunslet 12.



view was "it's good to firm." 10."

12.20 1, Hopscotch (9-4 tav); 2, Crystal Spirit (9-2); 3, Dawson City (8-1). 13 ran. 12.50 1, Upton Perk (16-1); 2, Granville Again (9-4); 3, Secret Four (12-1), Child Of The Mist 2-1 fav. 20 run. 1.20 1, Run For Pres (5-8 fav); 2, Fith Amendment (33-1); 3, Do Be Brief (12-1). 7 ran. NR: Stupid Cupid.

at Kempton on Boxing Day.

Both horses were declared

yesterday after their respective

trainers had walked the track at

Sunbury. Toby Tobias will only

run if further rain comes to ease

the going. But Celtic Shot will be

in the line-up unless the going

dries up considerably in the

already breathing fire and thun-

der against officialdom. "It's

ridiculous to impose fines on

trainers over declarations that

have to be made a full three days

in advance. If the Flat race

people had to do this they would

Trouble can probably be ex-

pected in the event of withdraw-

als, as different views of

vesterday's going were

probably have a heart attack."

Predictably, Mrs Pitman was

meantime.

1.55 1, Cool Ground (9-2); 2, Carrick Hill Lad (2-1 fev); 3, Rowlandsons Jewels (25-2.30 1, 1111-Street-Blues (66-1); 2, Themsedown Tootsis (50-1); 3, Gods Fox (11-1); 4, None So Wise (20-1). Bold Busion 4-1 tay. 22 ran. 3.6 1, Last 'O' The Bunch (4-1); 2, Dare Say (10-1); 3, Maybe Baby (16-1). Freeling Finishing 7-4 tav. 11 ran. 3.30 1, Remany King (5-2 fav); 2, Bold Lament (20-1); 3, Cash is King (4-1); 4, Wink Guiller (8-1), 17 ran, NR: Hope

Lingfield Park 12.45 1, King Credo (5-1); 2, Monday Ctub (9-4); 3, Taine Sende (2-1 fev), 16 ran. NR: Le Bon Chence. 1.15 1, Willess Anthony (5-4 fav); 2, Homme d'Affaire (15-8); 3, Quick Reaction (11-2). 7 ren. 1.45 1, Le Chet Noir (2-1); 2, Highfire (4-1); 3, Setter Country (11-10 fev), 4 ran. 2.15 1, Rublita (13-8); 2, Dudle (5-4 lav); 3, Jim Bowle (13-2), 4 ran.

2.45 1, Mileal in Spring (11-4); 2, Eddle Kybo (4-1); 3, Batween The Sheets (8-1). Tit Tech Flyer 5-2 fav. 9 ran. 3.15 1, Mileter Oddy (20-1); 2, Good For The Roses (13-2); 3, Katle Scarlet (33-1); 4, Briery Filio (8-1). Dara Doone 7-4 fev. 17

walk the track again either on Christmas Day or Boxing Day

morning. And we'll leave the decision to the eleventh hour. But we have not declared Toby Tobias with the intention of pulling a flanker. We genuinely want to run if possible. If Toby Tobias does not go to Kempton. pressed. Michael Webster, clerk he'll be switched either to the of the course at Kempton, Newton Cup at Haydock on reported: "the going is good - January 5 or the John Bull but only just." Mrs Pitman's Chase at Wincanton on January

By MICHAEL SEELY, RACING CORRESPONDENT

patches. But there's a magnifi-

cent covering of grass and

Toby Tobias, currently 9-2

favourite for next March's

Cheltenham Gold Cup after that

magnificent second to Norton's

Coin last spring, has not been

seen in public since winning the

Martell Gold Cup at Liverpool

Pitman went on: "We won't run

unless we have some rain. I'll

Stating her intentions, Mrs.

there's unlikely to be any iar."

Saturday's results

JENNY Pitman and Charlie And Brooks, after walking the

Brooks face fines of £700 if Toby track and using his penetrom-

Tobias and Celtic Shot are eter, said: "It varies between 2.5

withdrawn at the last moment and 4.5, in other words between

from the King George VI Chase good and good to firm in

12.30 1. Every Back (12-1); 2. Logical Lady (4-5 fav); 3. Goldkrone (14-1). 15 ran. NR: Homing Run, Presst. 1.8 1, Celtic Chimes (4-1 It-fav); 2, Shonk (7-1); 3, Origami (13-2). Ganger Camp 4-1 It-fav. 12 ran. NR: Norquay, Shelly's Folly, Super Tuesday.

1.30 1, Another Bokes (4-1); 2, Banbridge (9-4); 3, Silver Ace (2-1 fav). 8 2.6 1. Sweet 'M' Twenty (5-4 fav); 2. Denderous Lady (5-1); 3. Needwood Sprite 2.35 1, Trusty Friend (2-1 tav); 2, Capell Cone (7-1); 3, Raleigh Gazelle (9-4). 7 rsn.

3.5 1, Clean Through (11-10 fav); 2, Park Street (6-4). Two finished. 4 ran. 3.35 1, Weishmes (7-2); 2, Capulet (20-1); 3, City Index (20-1); 4, Bickerstaffe (50-1). Flatry Lad 3-1 fav. 19 ran. NR: Ross Venture, The Ligheer Side, Fenille. Edinburgh

12.15 1, Going On (9-4 fav); 2, Invertiel (11-2); 3, Rievaulx (15-1). 15 ren. 12.45 1, Hard To Hold (9-2); 2, Clares Own (8-1); 3, Triggoom Charle (11-8 tav). 4 1.15 1, Secret Finale (4-1); 2, He'penny Nap (5-1): 3, Home To Roost (6-1). Mershal Blake 7-4 fav. 9 ran. 1,45 1, Edberg (20-1); 2, Clay County (3-1); 3, Bobby Stack (7-1). Mecarthur Evens

2.15 1, Mig (5-2 lav); 2, Wensleydals-vitiam (11-4); 3, Abselfor (16-1), 14 ran. 2.45 1, River House (4-7 tav); 2, Impany (8-1); 3, Work Mate (6-1). 6 ran. 3.15 1†. Thersie (16-1); 1† Mismi Bear (5-2 tav); 3, Easy Over (11-1). 12 ran.

£700 King George fine certain for Aintree By MICHAEL SEELY Brooks intends running the REG Akehurst yesterday class staying handicaps always well-fancied Espy as well warned punters not to back Cool Celtic Shot, Yesterday, he said: Ground for the Grand National

"We would run them both today. Only if the weather becomes very cold and dry could things turn against Celtic Shot. At present the odds are heavily in favour of running. The ground is certainly no worse than when he won at Wetherby "He is by no means certain to and much better than

him from the Hennessy." There were no surprises among the 11 declarations but Henrietta Knight says that Von Csadek, who ran disappointingly in the Hennessy Gold Cup. is more likely to run at Newton Abbot than Kempton.

ground was before I withdrew

Cool Ground and Luke Harvey negotiate the last fence safely on their way to a fine Weish National victory at Chepstow on Saturday

Pitman fumes at possible Akehurst star not

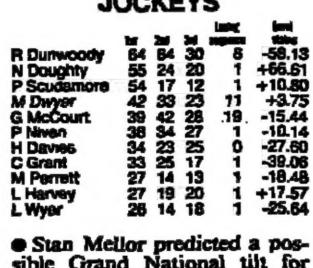
Cool Ground heads for Sandown after impressive Welsh National success

As David Elsworth pronounced Desert Orchid to be in fine fettle as the flying grey prepares for his attempt to win the Boxing Day spectacular for a record fourth time, Corals bet as follows: 13-8 Desert Orchid, 5-1 Celtic Shot, Sabin Du Loir, They then go 11-2 Toby Tobias. 8-1 Arctic Call, 10-1 The Fellow. 16-1 Nick The Brief and 25-1

Leaders over the jumps



JOCKEYS



sible Grand National tilt for Rubika after the seven-yearold outpaced Dudie from the last fence for a convincing victory in the Mac Vidi Pernetual Challenge Trophy at Lingfield on Saturday.

after his much-improved gelding had galloped his way into 16-I favouritism for the world's greatest steeplechase with seven-length defeat of Carrick Hill Lad at Chepstow on

run and could wait until 1991," said the trainer after recording his sixteenth success of the campaign and his most important since moving to Peter Bolton's multi-million pound training complex at Whitcombe Manor in Dorset. "He will probably try to win the Anthony Mildmay at Sandown again and long term he is more likely to go for the Irish National than ours

this season. The impressive victory of the well-backed 9-2 chance certainly provided a striking advertisement for Akehurst's training skills. For despite Cool Ground's overall record, including a second to Bonanza Boy in this race last year, Saturday's win was his best-ever performance.

Although Neale Doughty and Carrick Hill Lad, the 2-1 favourite, looked poised for victory on the final bend, Luke Harvey and Cool Ground were moving ominously well on their heels and the issue was decided after jumping the third fence from home. "I thought we might have gone too soon, but I decided to stretch them," the winning jockey reported.

Discussing the race yesterday, Akehurst said: "It was not a bad performance as the rest of the field finished 15 lengths adrift of the runner-up. Cool Ground was 50lb overweight when third to Twin Oaks at Haydock. We got him right and the going came right as well, so all we needed was a bit of luck."

Gordon Richards, though bitterly disappointed at having watched his pride and joy. Carrick Hill Lad, humbled so easily, was yesterday in a more philosophical mood, "We were just beaten by a better horse at the weights. We were trying to give the winner 11lb so we will still enter him for the Gold Cup. He will have another run before the end of January and then we will give him a break." History says that Richards's appraisal is correct. These top-

represent the best form around. After all. Rhyme 'N' Reason. who carried only 10 stone when second to Playschool in this race in 1988, went on to win four more races that season, including the Racing Post Chase and the Grand National.

Of the other fancied runners Boraceva ran too freely and Bonanza Boy, attempting to win the race for the third consecutive year, was at the rear of the field when pulled up early in the straight. A routine dope test was

Despite his disappointment with Bonanza Boy, Martin Pipe still enjoyed a good afternoon when landing a double with Hopscotch and Run For Free. That remarkable mare Hop-

scotch initiated a double for

Jonothan Lower when jumping her rivals ragged to record her ninth success of the season in the Finale Junior Hurdle, Saturday's 20-length winner is now 14-1 favourite for Cheltenham's Daily Express Triumph Hurdle, Run For Free completed the double when also romping home by 20 lengths in the Sport Of Kings Challenge Hurdle. Pipe and Lower were also expected to win the Philip Cornes Novices' Hurdle Qualifier with Granville Again. But gallantly though the favourite struggled, he was five lengths

behind the Steve Smith Ecclesridden Upton Park at the line. James Fanshawe, formally assistant to Michael Stoute, has already made his mark on the Flat in a short space of time. And here he was again on Saturday once more in the news with his first-ever runner under National Hunt rules.

"We fancied him a lot for the Cesarewitch, but he ran disappointingly and took a bit of time to get over it," said the trainer. "Still Steve was thrilled with the performance. We will have to see how he takes this race, but his long-term objective will be either the Philip Cornes final or the Sun Alliance Hurdle

at Cheltenham." Richard Dunwoody had a fall when Freeline Finishing came to grief at the last fence of the Festive Spirits Novices' Chase. But although the jockey gave up. a later mount, Bold Lament, he rode work for David Nicholson vesterday morning and reported no ill effects from his tumble.

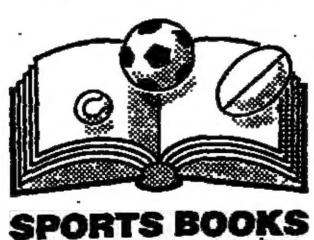
O'Brien offering an insight into a master of the Turf

By MICHAEL SEELY RACING CORRESPONDENT LESTER Piggott's dramatic vic-

tory on Royal Academy in the Breeders' Cup Turf at Belmont Park in November not only represented a fairytale comeback for the then 54-year-old THI (Reuter) - Jahangir back for the then 54-year-old maestro. It was also a celebraon, is to appeal against a tion of one of the most remarkable partnerships in the long history of the Turf between Piggott and the legendary Irish master trainer, Vincent O'Brien. Raymond Smith's latest offering, Vincent O'Brien, the master of Ballydoyle (Virgin Books, £12.99), is an authoritative and colourful account of the career of the man who is universally acknowledged to be the most versatile, if not the greatest, trainer of racehorses.

it did not receive ofoufication of his with-Apart from his 44 wins in English and Irish classics. O'Brien has also collected three Grand Nationals, four Cheltenham Gold Cups and three Champion Hurdles. And the story of how he obtained a better price about Knock Hard for the Irish Lincoln by running the gelding over fences, a race which incidentally he won, is already part of history. The strength of I. I am a victim of Smith's book lies in the interviews with other leading personalities of a colourful era. Scobie Breasley, who won the

O'Brien on Ballymoss, had this



OF THE YEAR What are the best sports books of 1990? Specialist writers for

The Times give their verdicts to say: "I think Vincent thought of the horse first. He turned out his horses looking a picture. He studied the individual traits of each animal and knew the special requirements each demanded. He would never rush a horse of his or force it in order to win quick or easy pickings. preferring to aim at big targets. even though they might be 12 months and even longer away." On the same theme, Piggott remembered: "He had to have did achieve. In Vincent's case bred Stallions, Tony Morris, the aspects that set him apart Crowood £18.95. went far deeper. What struck me The Racehorse Trainer, Paul

approach to the profession of

day he put his mind into the responsibilities of training." And about the gambling: "Because of many successful coups he landed when he was establishing himself initially as a trainer, I know there are those who would say he was a gambler in those days. I would prefer to describe him as an investor. He liked to bet when he knew he had a stone in hand."

One of the most entertaining books written about the Turf. The Druids Lodge Confederacy by Paul Mathieu (J A Allen, £14,95), has already been extensively reviewed. Suffice it to say that this is a colourful account of the exploits of one of the most successful gambling syndicates to have operated on the Turl,

From their beadquarters on Salisbury Plain, the partnership masterminded many betting coups, whose winnings, judged modern terms, were astronomical. The dual victories of Hacklers Pride in the Cambridgeshire in 1902 and 1903 were but two of countless big handicap winners trained by Jack Fallon. every ambition to achieve all he . Also recommended: Thorough-

most forcibly about him was his Haigh, Transworld £25. Channel 4 Book of Racing. Sean training. He was totally dedi- Magee. Sidgwick & Jackson cated for every minute of the £9.99.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

Schroeder in command at Minneapolis JAY Schroeder and Wade Wil-

son, quarterbacks for the Los Angeles Raiders and Minnesota Vikings, experienced contrasting fortunes in the 28-24 victory by Raiders in Minneapolis on Saturday (Russell Kempson

Schroeder passed for four touchdowns and 234 yards as Raiders moved to within one win of their first AFC West title for six years. Wilson injured a shoulder midway through the third quarter, after being sacked by Scott Davis. Like those of the Vikings, the

play-off hopes of Green Bay Packers also disappeared when they lost 24-17 against Detroit Lions. Detroit made good use of two fourth-quarter turnovers and a 74-yard drive on a slippery field to condemn Packers to their fourth successive defeat. Barry Sanders ran six yards for the winning touchdown with 3min 37sec remaining. Alan Grant, a rookie desen-.

cepted pass 25 yards with just 50 seconds left to give Indianapolis Colts a 35-28 success over Washington Redskins, after Redskins had led 28-21 with 4min 15sec on the clock. RESULTS: Los Angeles Palders 28, Minnesota Vikings 24; Detroit Lions 24, Green Bay Packers 17; Indianapolis Goits 35. Washington Redskins 28.

sive back, returned an inter-

TABLE TENNIS

Chen's double success sends leaders toppling

erham, produced two excellent wins to help bring down the league leaders and title-holders, NFD Grove, in a match described as the best in British league history yesterday. doubt, won in straight games against both the English national champion. Desmond Douglas, and the Commonwealth champion, Alan Cooke. to help the Cleveland club. Butterfly Ormesby, to a 5-3 victory at the Thornaby Pavilion against the visitors from

Market Drayton Chen, who lost to Cooke in a county match recently, and whose fitness has been questioned, nevertheless showed that he should be a front runner for the English national championships in March when he becomes eligible for the first

time. The former Chinese international's two successes also kept him his unbeaten record in the British league, stretching back for two-and-a-half seasons. and helped open up the title race, with Ormesby now going ahead of the favourites, Grove, at the top.

Ormesby also had to thank another well-known migrant.

By RICHARD EATON

CHEN Xinhua, the former Calin Creanga, the Athens-

World Cup winner, from Rothbased Romanian exile, for their Chen's opening victory over Douglas with a crucial 20-22, 21-9, 21-13 success over Cooke and then clinched the match, at 5-2, with his fierce hitting by Chen, whose future for the winning 21-18, 21-18 against the with a chance of success rather England team is said to be in former English junior cham- than to those simply eligible to pion, Bradley Billington Ormesby's other winner was Michael O'Driscoll, the European silver medal winner, who overcame another of England's promising teenagers, Chris

cently postponed his university | riders and their coaches for next education to try to make the grade in top-class table tennis. was later well beaten by

may well now depend on how many matches Ormsby can persuade Creanga to play for them. The ex-Romanian again proved that he is one of the fiercest hitters in Europe, and the Cleveland club will regard those talents as vital for the return match in the new year.

RESULTS: Ormeeby: Chen Xinhua bt D Douglas, 21-17, 21-12; C Creange bt A Cooke, 20-22, 21-9, 21-13; M O'Driscoll bt C Oldfield, 21-16, 21-19; J Broe lost to B Billington, 16-21, 7-21; Chen br Cooke, 25-23, 21-14; O'Driscoll lost to Douglas, 9-21, 16-21: Creange bt Bittington, 21-18, 21-18; changed for Barcelona 12 Bros lost to Oldfield, 14-21, 17-21. months later.

CYCLING

BOA applauds plan to limit team numbers BRITAIN'S officials vesterday

welcomed the decision of the win. Creanga followed up (BOA) to introduce a "quality control" selection basis for the 1992 Barcelona games (Peter

take part has been brough about by Barcelona being unable to find room for 16,000 competitors and officials. A reduction by 5,000 will be necessary. "Our immediate job is to fire a warning shot about excellence However, O'Driscoll, who re- | across the bows of potential

e 5-1

orth (7)

ce. 8-1

year's world road and track championships in Stuttgart. which will provide a benchmark for our Olympic hopes," Doug The destination of the title Dailey, the national coach, said. What he will be demanding from next year's world championships are riders or teams capable of finishing in the top half or the first 16 in

> First, however, the British Cycling Federation will ask the BOA for a strict interpretation of which events will carry a first-16 or top-half qualification in world rankings and whether the composition of successful world championship teams can be

No love lost in a disgraceful affair

By STUART JONES

FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT NEVER can the season of goodwill have been poisoned with such malevolence as at White Hart Lane on Saturday. Three players were sent off as Tottenham Hotspur beat Luton Town 2-1, four more were cautioned and, to complete an after-noon infected with physical and verbal unpleasantry, the captain of England was ac-

cused of being a cheat. At the centre of the mayhem was David Elleray, a strict disciplinarian whose early warnings were contemptuously ignored. Neither Tottenham nor Luton, therefore, can use the referee as a convenient excuse for a disgraceful affair which long before the end had been reduced to an almost unprecedented farce.

The players alone were to blame, but instead of condemning their misconduct, the managers showed few signs of remorse. "I'm not going to criticise my team too much," Terry Venables said. "If I could give them more than ten points out of ten, would."

His elation was partly understandable. Tottenham. having collected only one point out of a possible nine, were rapidly dropping out of contention. To recover from an early deficit and go on to win with only nine men was an extraordinary achievement. The victory was, in the words of Venables, "sensational".

Yet they excavated the seemingly bottomless pit in which they found themselves. Had Navim and van den Hauwe not lost their heads. there would have been no need for Tottenham to advertise the merits of a 4-3-1. and eventually a 4-4-0, formation for the closing 52 minutes.

Both of their miscreants might have been expelled

before they were. Nayim timed his offences every quarter of an hour. The first, though cynical, earned him merely a booking. The second, borne out of childish petulance, had not appeared to warrant another yellow

he failed to retreat ten yards, but the referee later stipulated that Nayim had been guilty of "foul and abusive language", a crime which necessitates instant dismissal. On the other flank, van den Hauwe was offering a frightening impersonation of a volcano

Midway through the first

It did not last long for Hughes. On the hour he was also ordered off, although his tackle on Lineker, after the whistle had already been blown, deserved no more than a caution. The Welsh Under-21 international was a victim of a deliberate deception, according to Dreyer.

After conceding a free kick waiting to erupt.

half, and directly in front of the dug-outs, he exploded with an assault which threatened to dismember Black. In spite of a stern lecture from the referee, van den Hauwe refused to cool down, and a dozen minutes later he launched himself forcefully at

The left back's grotesque challenge on Dowie, who was mercifully unhurt, provoked heated argument among those seated on the nearby benches. The game was then hurtling towards outright

Sense and tempers were restored during the interval. Jim Ryan spent the whole of telling the Luton players "to be careful, to avoid getting involved and not to show dissent". Venables was conveying the same message in the other dressing room and the second half was staged amid comparative



Striding out: Johnson, of Luton Town (left), takes on Walsh, of Tottenham Hotspur, at White Hart Lane

pressed his conviction that Lineker, who has been known to look as though he is auditioning for an amateur dramatic society, fell theatrically. Dreyer weakened his case immediately when, without being touched, he dived inside Tottenham's area in a vain attempt to gain a

The names of McDonough. Luton's captain later ex- Dowie, Sedgley and Harvey

spirit which illuminated their

more prosperous moments, vic-

tory could have been theirs, for

even when they stumbled awk-

wardly midway through a fre-

netic first half their football was

The disappointment of seeing

Wallace's magnificent goal in

the eighteenth minute cancelled

out by Rosenthal's assured

touch at the far post a quarter of

an hour later was swiftly over-

come. Even a second, equally

calculating, goal by the

for once, be met with a suitable

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Provider 19 4 4 2 11 12 2 2 5 11 14 24

Exister 19 4 4 2 12 7 2 1 6 9 13 23

Proctor 78 4 4 2 11 12 Z 2 5 11 14 24 Exeter 19 4 4 2 12 7 2 1 6 9 13 23 Conduct 19 3 2 5 76 12 3 2 4 9 9 22 Secretary 15 2 3 4 18 12 2 2 6 21 24 17

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Shearer, A McLoughlin, R Wallace.

Third division

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PRESTON

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Gilligan 14 83 Connor 28

rhythm and purpose.

calmer and more thoughtful.

were taken, all for fouls. There was a bit of feeling out there." Ryan said. Bit of feeling? That is equivalent to describing the second world war as a slight skirmish. Venables conceded that "emotions were stirred once we were down to ten men".

The misbehaviour was at least laced with entertainment. Luton, competing appreciably more effectively

against 11 men than against ten or nine, took the lead through Dowie and then, to Tottenham's convenience and everybody else's bemusement, slowed down the pace of their attacks. "That was

stupid," Ryan said.

Stewart, with the enterprising assistance of Gascoigne, scored both of Tottenham's goals before playing a prominent defensive role. He was

an occasion coated with

one of few individuals to

emerge with any credit from

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR: E Thorstvedt; M Thomas, P van den Heuwe, S Sedgley, D Howells, G Mabbutt, P Stewart, P Gas-coigne, Nayim, G Lineker (sub: V Samways), P Walsh (sub: P Allen).

LUTON TOWN: A Chamberlain; M Johnson, R Harvey, S Williams, D McDonough (sub: D Beaumont), J Dreyer, L Estrup (sub: S Farrell), D Preecs, I Dowle, C Hughes, K Black. Referen: D Elleray.

Harford discovers defensive speed is not sufficient

By CLIVE WHITE

Wimbledon. Manchester United...

THE new directive from Fifa on serious foul play is a hard taskmaster as Keith Curlc discovered to his cost on Saturday. The Wimbledon defender gave another impeccable performance, both in style and manners, only to suffer the dishonour of dismissal in the 88th minute for a tackle that was

neither cynical nor malicious. What makes a nonsense of the FA's interpretation of the edict is that in all probability Curle would not even have been booked had Hughes, the man he fouled, not been bearing down on goal at the time.

At worse the tackle, which resulted in a penalty from which Manchester United scored, was a desperate one of a tiring player. Ray Harford, who, understandably was more conthe deserved loss of three points from this match, blamed himelf for Ourle's misform

"I probably exposed him to that situation by throwing caution to the wind in the last few minutes," he said. Doubtless Harford would do the same again though. Indeed, Wimbledon's new game of compression he repeatedly gambled on the recovery powers of a defence whom he considers the

quickest in England. Harford even went so far as to say that Curle was quicker than Walker, which he may be, though he was possibly stretching the imagination when he compared him to Franco Baresi. Curle has an international career ahead of him, though his opportunties may be restricted

to the position in which England

are well catered for. Looking at John Fashanu. Curle must wonder whether life would not have been simpler. not to mention more profitable. had he remained a winger, which is where he played for Torquay United during a career which has taken him to five clubs.

saw a revitalised

£1,000-a-goal bonus and then give another away with a tackle that was decidly clumsier than that for which Curie was

Fashanu's error was also considerably more significant because it allowed United back into a game which they had never looked like drawing let alone winning. It was nevertheless a quality move which Robson, back in United's starting line-up for the first time this season, was poised to finish when rudely interrupted by

Fashanu. Jim Rushton, the referee, was presumably less convinced than Fashanu about the United captain's chances of scoring because he chose not to sent the player off, though he awarded a

Bruce's kick went in off the post, but Alex Ferguson, the United manager, would no doubt claim that, like all good teams, they were making their own luck at the moment. Harford described them as the best team that they have played which only left one puzzled why Wimbledon's home record was

"The top-class players work extremely hard," he said, not the sort of plaudit one used to associate with United. Work rate and discipline are

today's virtues and United could not afford to be lacking in either against such intimidating opponents as Wimbledon. One could hardly describe the abrasive Hughes as being out of his element, and typically, be scored of his own making when be turned Blackwell and drilled the ball past Segers.

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Robson, making the most of the time and space afforded him in his experimental role in front of the back four, was entitled to feel pleased with his contribution which he concluded by starting the move which prompted Curle's indiscretion and a second penalty by Bruce.

WHIGHLEDON: H Segers; R Joseph, > Phelen, W Barton, D Slackwell (sub: L Senchez). K Curle, P McGee, D Kruszynski, J Fasharu, J Scales, T Blackmore (sub: D Wallace), M Donaghy. S Bruce, M Phelan, G Pallister, B Robson, P Ince, B McClair, M Hughes, N Webb.

Sheffield United win at last

SHEFFIELD United finally broke their first-division duck on Saturday in thrilling fashion, beating Nottingham Forest 3-2 - seven days after equalling Hall City's record of 16 games without a win from the start of

scrappy opening half, with Jones going close twice before Ian Bryson swept them into the lead, finishing off a long throw by Jones three minutes after the equalised immediate-

United had the better of a

ly, Parker threading the ball to Keane, who coolly slotted it past the advancing Tracey from 12 yards. Pearce put Forest ahead in the

57th minute with a left-foot shot from just inside the area, but Bryson was in the right spot again two minutes later to head in a centre from Bradshaw. Deane headed the winner in

 PARIS: Lothar Matthäus. who captained the World Cup winners. West Germany, was named European footballer of the year yesterday (AFP reports). Matthaus, aged 29, who plays for Inter Milan, was well clear of his closest rival. Salvatore Schillaci, of Italy, the

Lack of ambition turns out costly throughout with the refreshing

By IAN ROSS

Southampton WHILE few managers could honestly admit to relishing games at Anfield, the experience vould appear to have its compensations, irrespective of

the outcome. Chris Nicholl, of Southampton, is one of an elite band of managers who can shield his disappointment by taking solace where he can find it. But by by what he saw. Nicholl could be accused of condoning the lack of adventure which ultimately brought about

his side's downfall. He should perhaps have simply acknowledged that a narrow defeat at the hands of English football's most accomplished outfit can often be regarded as a

moral victory. Having matched, and occasionally outplayed, their opponents for 60 minutes of a quite absorbing game. Southampton. like so many sides before them. made the fatal mistake of attempting to consolidate when there was still much hard work to be done.

Liverpool, never more dangerous than when invited to attack, promptly stole a victory which for lengthy spells had seemed unlikely.

Chelsea begin to fulfil potential

Coventry City....

While Chelsea continue to their exciting potential ering his fitness for a return to

manager, smilingly concedes that his side's run of success of John Major, a Chelsea supporter, as prime minister. November 17 that left the side fourteenth in the table. Young

voted man of the match after an outstanding performance in only his tenth game at senior level. Stuart, aged 20, who replaced Monkou when he went off with a hamstring injury after 34 minutes, is a product of the FA School of Excellence and a fine prospect.

Chelsea, unbeaten at Stamford Bridge for ten months. dominated. Yet they went behind after 57 minutes when an overhead kick by Speedic, the former Cheisea player, was cleared off the goalline and Gallacher slipped in his ninth goal of the season.

It might have been worse. Cundy slid from nowhere to clear off the line from Regis nine minutes later, with some Coventry players adamant he had handled in the process.

Justice was done after 78 minutes when Wise presented Townsend with the chance to celebrate his return after his tongue-swallowing scare to strike a left-foot shot high into the net. Three minutes later, Le Saux sent Stuart away on the left and Wise converted the centre for his eighth goal of the season. Most of the 16,317 present were

Wright provides a touch of class

By PETER BALL

Manchester City **Crystal Palace**

MANCHESTER City's first defeat since Peter Reid was appointed manager was a frustrating one as his side helped contrive their own downfall as their familiar defensive flaws surfaced once again. Unlike last week's high-flying London visitors, Tottenham, Crystal Palace may not win many friends with their style, but their greater effectiveness was unarguable as they stifled the home team and

pounced on City's mistakes. The purist might admire their defensive organisation; but for the neutral spectators, including the England manager, Graham Taylor, the pace and ability of Ian Wright, who scored a stunning second goal, gave the game its one flash of quality.

What a pity Wright is not given more opportunity to show off his range of talents. In this era of greater emphasis on attacking football, Palace, under a manager who made his name with Tommy Docherty's freeflowing young Manchester United team, are a throw-back to the sullen age of Ramsey when the successful visiting teams built their game on solid defence and then pouncing on a mistake to escape with victory and the boos of the home crowd

MOTHERWILL(1) 2

ringing in their cars.

So it was on Saturday. It was not pretty, but with Martyn making two splendid early saves and Young and Thorn forming an unbudging central defence, it was mightily effective, particularly as Mr Barratt turned an unseeing eye to a niggling approach, compounded by two challenges which recalled the

The second, by Thomas on Reid, briefly threatened to go further as Reid got up to pursue his assailant, but Thomas shrugged off that challenge and Megson and Heath. things quietened down after a heated verbal exchange. City were no more successful

worst moments of the FA Cup

final replay.

in a footballing sense, as after half an hour of one-way traffic. yet another defensive error undermined them. Pointon. having been brilliantly thwarted twice by Martyn, beating his own goalkeeper with an attempt to put the ball behind. From then on. Palace kept nine. sometimes ten, men behind the ball, but Wright on his own was threat enough, and he ended comeback hopes as he destroyed Redmond, and beat Coton with a perfectly placed low drive.

MANCHESTER CITY: A COLOT, Brightwell (sub: W Clarke), N Pointon, leid, C Hendry, S Redmond, D White, J Heath, N Quinn, G Megson, M Ward. CRYSTAL PALACE: N Martyn: J Humphrey, R Shew, A Gray, E Young, A Thom, J Saleko, G Thomas, M Bright, I Wright, E McGoldrick. Referen: K Barrett.

Graham 34

Lawrence 4

(1) 1 BRECHIN

POSTPONED: Hamilton v Meadwhank;

Morton v Clyde; Partick v Rakn Rovers.

First division

Stainrod 12 (pan)

ALICEK

CLYDEBANK (I) 8 AYR UTD

More woe for Celtic at the foot

CELTIC'S depression intensified on Saturday when they were beaten 3-2 by St Johnstone Roddy Forsyth writes). It was the Glasgow team's sixth defeat in nine games and left them trailing Rangers by eleven points. They are only three points off the bottom of the

premier division. Yet again, Celtic fell behind to an early goal. Maskrey's firstminute goal was followed by one from Curran soon afterwards and although Collins got one back. Turner restored the home side's margin before Coyne hit Celtic's second.

Rangers, meanwhile, came vithin seconds of widening their three-point margin at the top. Playing below their best form and forced into a reshuffle by Trevor Steven's departure with hamstring injury, they, nevertheless, ran up a two-goal lead against Aberdeen through their substitute, Ally McCoist, in the second half. Aberdeen, however, continued to press.

Bett followed up a successful penalty with a low shot for the equaliser in the final minute. Elsewhere, Love Street failed to live up to its name when St Mirren beat Hibernian 1-0 with penalty from Black. McWhirter and Archibald, of St Mirren, were sent off before Miller, of Hibernian, was also shown the red card.

Second division

Morton 14

Buticch 24 61

the 66th minute, his ninth goal of the season.

leading goalscorer in the competition. Paul Gascoigne, of Tottenham Hotspur and England, was fourth. Barclays League First division Townsand 80

(0) D C PALACE Pointon 37

Houghton 83 MAN CITY (1) 1 EVERTON 3 NOTTM FOR (0) 2 Brysen 48 59 Deano 65 20,354 Pearce 57 TOTTENHAM (:) 2 LUTON WIMBLEDON (1) 1 MAN UTD Bruce 69 88 (pens)

Wagerle 33 Saundors 90

VAUXHALL LEAGUE: Premier division: Basingstoke 1. Redonage Forest 2; Basingstoke 1. Redonage Forest 2; Basingstoke 1. States 3. Leyton-Wingate 1; Bognor 1. States 2: Carshatton 1. Wolungham 2. Degenham 3. Aylesbury 2; Grays 0. Enfield 2: Hayes 0. Kingstonian 0; Marlow 3. Harrow 1. St Alberts 1. Barking 2: Windsor and Eton 3. Wivening 2: Wolding 2. Hendon 0. First division: Available 1. Venting 2: Province 2: 1. Yeading 0: Boreham Wood 3. Heybridge Swifts 1: Cheeham 0, Hitchin 0; Dorlong 0, Wembley 2, Dulwich 9, Worting 0, Harlow 3, Walton and Hersham 1. Lewes 3, Bromley 4; Southwick 2, Molesey 4: Tooting and Mitchem 1, Croydon 2; Usbindge 0, Challont St Peter 2. Second division south: Abergdon Town 4. Feltham 0; Camberley 1, Flackwell 0; Heath 2: Chartsey 2. Epsom and Ewell 0; Hampton 2, Brackmell 2; Harefield 0, Maidenhead 3; Horstein 5, Cove 0; Loamerhead 3, Hungerland 2, Newbury 2,

Had Southampton played Second division BARNSLEY (1) 1 WEST HAM (0) (0) 1 NEWCASTLE (0) CHARLTON (O) D BLACKBURN (1) Moran 24 (pen OXFORD

3 BRISTOL C (1) 2 Simpson 4 80 VALLE (D) D BRIGHTON Sheerer 76 WOLVES 4 MILLWALL Betamy 4 Buti 43 Faylor 74.83

22 4 4 22217 1 2 9 13 36 21

21 3 4 32120 1 4 6 1021 20

22 1 3 8 6 13 3 4 5 12 15 79 United 2; Ruisin Menor 4, Athletic D; Southall 5. Petersfield D. Second division north: Basidon 0, Bitlencay 0; Cottler Row 1, Homehurch 1; Edgware 0, Hertford 3; Hemel Hempstead 1, Clapton 1; Kingsbury 3, Purified 2; Saffron Walden 3, Tring 1; Stevenage Borough 2, Royston 1; Vauchail Motors 4, Barton Rovers 1; Ware 2, Finchiey 0; Witham 1, Birkhamsted 0. 2, Prichey U; William 1, birkhamsted U.
HPS LOANS LEAGUE CUP: Third round:
Bangor City 2, Statybridge 2; Germarion
2. Farsley Celtic 1. Premier division;
Droyladen 1, Fleetwood 3; Frickley 0,
Witton 1, First division cup: Second
round: Worksop 4, Rhyl 3, Postponed:
Harrogate v kram. First division: Lancaster City 2, Newtown 1. BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier di-

vision: Atherstone 0, Dorchester 3; Bromsgrove 2, Bashley 4; Cambridge City 3. Waterlooville 0; Dover 1, Rushden 0;

By DENNIS SIGNY Cheisea.....

TWO late goals by Andy Townsend and Dennis Wise, who cost a combined £2.8 million in the summer to spearhead Cheisea's ambitions, extended the the club's sequence of victories to seven games, five of them in the League, and elevated them to sixth in the

Israelinternational shortly beany great degree Terry Butcher, the Coventry Southampton's impressive player-manager, was left consid-When Wallace dispossessed the side against Tottenham Hysen and skipped around Hotspur on Boxing Day in a bid Grobbelaar to score in the for a first League win since he fiftieth minute it seemed highly succeeded John Sillett. probable that one of Liverpool's Bobby Campbell, the Cheisea less fluent performances would.

nunishment. It was not to be. Houghton's spectacular vollev five minutes from the end served only to prove that, at Antield, fortune will always favour the brave and that the meek shall inherit nothing more than the hollow praise of their LIVERPOOL: B Grobbelsar: G Hysen, D Burrows, S Nicol, S Staunton, G Gillespie Rosenthal, R Houghton, I Rush. Barnes, S McMahon. SOUTHAMPTON: T Flowers; J Dodd, M just 21, has played more than 80 vdams, J Cass (sub: F Benail).

international.

Francis 29 43

Dobson 49

coincides with the appointment More to the point is the shakeup after a disappointing 2-1 defeat at Wimbledon on players have been introduced instead of established internationals. Five of the present side are aged under 22; Lee, aged

games; Hall, aged 21, is a Welsh

DARLINGTN (O) 1 CHESTRELD

Cundy, 21 in November, was

SCUNTHRIPE

(1) 1 BLACKPOOL (7) 6

Scartharpo 19 5 2 1 16 6 8 4 6 5 10 24 Scartes 20 5 2 3 12 11 1 4 5 9 15 24 Confei 19 2 4 3 10 13 3 4 3 7 11 23 Mackgood 19 4 2 3 17 11 1 3 6 8 15 29 Wreshess 19 2 4 2 16 12 2 8 8 9 79 15

Halesowen 1; Weeldstone O. Cheimelord

3; Weymouth O, Dartford D. Soothern

division: Andover 3, Dunatable 2: Ashlord

Witney 1; Baldock 2. Hastings

Busingham 2. Gosport Borough 2. Fereham 1, Salisbury 1: Hythe 2, Bury 1: Margate 1, Yate 2: Newport 10W 1, Carserbury 3: Suchury 1, Connthen 0: Trowbridge 2, Burnham 2, Postposed:

Erith and Belveders v Fothestone. Mid-lend division: Barry 0, King's Lynn 0; Bedworth 4, Newport AFC 2, Bridgmorth 3, Spaiding 3; Corby 2, Hednestord 3; Dudley 2, Bilston 1; Grantham 2, Leicester

0: Hincidey 3, Alvechurch 1; RC Warwick 3. Stourbridge 2; Redditch 2, Tamworth 4; Sutton Colcheld 3, Nuneaton Borough 2; Willenhell 5, Stroud 1.

POOLS CHECK

FORECAST: Dividends will be very good with nine score draws and no no-score draws. Telephones daking for 24 points required.

1 GILLINGHAM (1) T

CHELSEA: D Beasant; G Hall, A Dorigo, A Townsend, J Cundy, K Monkou (sub: 0 Spent), G Le Saux, D Lee, K Dixon, G COVENTRY CITY: S Ogrkovic; B Bor rows, P Edwards, D Emerson, P Billing. Peake, K Gallacher, M Gynn, C Regis, Referee: L Shepter. WEEKEND RESULTS, TABLES AND SCORERS GM Vauxhall Conference



29 2 5 3 9 11 1 1 8 9 23 15 28 2 3 4 15 15 1 2 8 10 27 14 Challenter 16 1 3 3 6 28 1 2 5 8 79 12 OVENDEN PAPERS COMBINATION: Ips-wich 1, Tottenham 0: Luton 3, Charlton 1; Southernpton 2, QPR 0. SMRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Bangor 2 Bellymena 2: Colerane 0, Ards 1: Crusaders 1, Ballyclare Comrades 2, Distillery 2, Clittonville 2: Glenevon 2, Linfield 1: Glentoran 1, Portadown 1; Larne 3, Omegh Town 3; Newry 2, Carrick 0. BASS NORTH WEST COUNTIES: First Civision: Asteon Utd 2, Darwen 2; Essecod Harriey 3, Colwyn Buy 0; Fibtion 1. Maine Road 6; Penrith 4, Bootle 1; Sationd City 1, Skalmerschie 5; St Helens 4. Atherion LR 3; Vauntall GM 1, Knowsky 2 Leadand DAE 0, Standard Knowsley 2 Leyland DAF 0, Prescot 0. LONDOM OLD BOYS LEAGUE Premier division: Old Kingsburians 2, Old ignations 3. Glyn Old Boys 1, Chertsey Old Salesians 0, Old Meadonians 3, Cardingle Salesians 0, Old Meadonians 1, Old Mead Manning Old Boys 0; Old Albystens 0, Enfield Old Grammarian 3, Old Suttonians 5, Old Danes 1; Civil Service 2, Latymer



JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Braintrée 2.
Gorieston 0; Brantham Amietic 1, Watton
2; Chatteris 0, Felixstone 2; Greet
Yarmouth 2, Heisteed 2 Histon 2, Tipireo
1; March Town 1, Cornero 0, Wiebech 1,
Clacton 0; Wroxham 3, Harwich and WEEKLY WYNNER LEAGUE: Proc division: Gelper 1, Ossett Alben 1; Brigg 2, Matthy MW 0; Density 1, Thackley 1; Guiseley 7, Sutton Town 2, Harrogate R 0, Spennymoor 2; North Shelds 5, Armshorpe Wetters 1; Pontetract Cot 1, Winterton Railways 2. ABACUS WELSH LEAGUE: Medional di-vision: Briton Ferry 2, Brecon 4; Bridgend 2, Pemproke 4; Combren 3, Aberyshyth 2; Ferridale 1, Ammendard 0, Haverfordwest 1, Abergavenny 9: Llanes 5, Afan Lido 0; Port Talbot 1, Ton Pensre 0.

FA VASE: Third round replay: Didcot 2, Malden Vale 1 (est). SOUTHERN OLYMPIAN LEAGUE: First division: Mill Hill Village 3. Old Gremmar-ions 0; Old Parmitenans 5. Old Bestonians EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Qualitying round: Group 3: Cyprus 0, Italy 4 (m Hungary.... USSR...... 2 1 1 0 2 0 Norway..... 3 1 1 1 3 2 Oppno..... 3 0 0 3 2 11

Sago Rovers 2, Sheltorune 2; Waterford Util 1, Dundsik 3. Leeding positions: (after 16 matches): equal 1, St Patrick 3 Americ, Cork City and Dundsik, 2apts. League Cips: Semi-first: St Patrick's Americ 0, Derry City 1. 0; Lyone 4, Toulouse 1; Rannes 3, Brest C. Nice 2, St Etienne 0; Automo 9, Carnes 3.

FRENCH LEAGUE: CEBO Q. Marsothes O. Montpetter 2, Mongoo 1: Lille 0, Bordnauer Toulon O, Peris Seint-Germain O Isbandoned - 4(min). Postpened: Metz v Nantes, Nancy v Sochetzt. Leading positions (after 21 matches): 1; Mar-sollies, 31ptx; 2, Aussers, 27; 3, Monaco, 26.

19 1 2 7 921 1 2 6 917 # IORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Brandon 3, Peteriee Newtown 3; Consett 1, Durham 1; Ferryhill Athletic D. Gretne 3; Star 0, Billingham Synthonia 0, Seatham Red Star 0, Blyth Spertans 3; Stockton 0, Guisborough 2; Whickham 1, South Basir 0; Whitty 2, Alnwick 0.

(M.Swall, 11); D Beckford (Port Vale, 14), 12; D Kelly (Leicester, 11), 11; I Beard (Middlesbrough, 10); P Simpson (Oxford, 10) Third division: 18; B Angell (Southerd, 7), 14; D Page (Wigan, 9), 13; A Pt.chstark (Botton, 7), A Sussox (Crewo, 8), 12; L Bissett (Bournemouth, 10); S. Caste (Leyton Orient, 6), 10; T Senior (Reeding, 10); I Benjamin (Southend, 7), Fourth division; 18; S Rimmer (Walsall, 13); 16; S Butler (Maidstone, 11), 14; S Love; (Gillingham, 12); J Allon (Hartle-poct, 8), 13; G Pudlett (Alcerahot, 8) Service Control of the Control of th halfor Stop

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LEADING GOALSCORERS: (Rescue goals m brackets): 14: I Rush (Liverocol, 9); R. Wagerie (OPR, 19), 13: D Piett (Asion Vika, Bt. D Saunders (Derby County, 10k P Gascorgne (Tottenham, 7), 11; I Wright (Crystal Palace, 6); P Boardsley (Liverpool, 11); L Elstrup (Liston, 10); G Lineker (Tottenham, 10), Second division; 17; D Hirst (Sheffield Wed, 12); S Buil (Vicios, 16), 16; A Payton (Hus, 15); B Slaves (Middlesbrough, 11), 14; M Small (Brighton, 11); E Sherington (Malwell, 11); D Beckford (Port Vale, 14), 12; D Kelly (Lelopper, 11), 13; J Band

LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Promier division:

FOOTBALL

Gould helps bring new resolve and an end to the slide

By DENNIS SHAW

Derby County.....

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A MEANER, more combative Queen's Park Rangers, remotivated by the arrival of Bobby Gould as Don Howe's No. 2 as well as two defenders, were a frustrating 25 seconds away from claiming their first victory in ten matches yesterday.

jury time to break down a battling team which had previously lost nine games in succession. Saunders's thirteenth goal of the season, gratefully touched over the fine as the referee took his final time check, equalised Wegerle's first-half strike.

The fact that such a performance was so long in arriving was entirely down to Rangers' recent hurried remodelling, on and off the field.

Gould's influence was never in doubt. He even shouted more loudly and more often from the dugout than Arthur Cox, the volatile home

Out on the pitch, the even fender. Caught undecided, as

Blackburn give hint of a revival

LOUISE TAYLOR reviews the second division

WHEN is a foul "professional"; what does the word sweeper really mean, and why did Stuart Ripley start on the Middlesbrough substitutes's bench? Those were the three questions left lodged in the minds of those who watched Blackburn Rovers win 1-0 at Ayresome Park on

There can be no quibbles about the decisive 23rd minute penalty - fired past Stephen Pears by Kevin Moran - for only Simon Coleman's tackle stood between Keith Hill and a

certain goal.

But if Arsenal's Tony Adams was sent off for doing virtually the same thing at Luton a few weeks ago, why was it that Gary Aplin, the referee, did not even speak to Coleman? No wonder the PFA want the issue clarified. The main reason Middlesbrough failed to muster a goal of their own was the effectiveness of the Blackburn sweeper systern. Rather than deploying Robert Dewhurst and later Mark Atkins (who switched roles after Moran himped off) as a spare body behind the defence, Rovers instructed their fifth

to another. Rovers retained the system even when Chris Sulley, the left back, was dismissed for a second. bookable offence — a distinctly professional-looking foul - on John Hendrie early in the second half. Lennie Johnrose clear of the rocks.

man to act as a troubleshooter,

moving from one defensive role

dropping back from attack. Hendrie was untypically subdued but Middlesbrough had an England under-21 international right winger kicking his heels on the bench. But rather than introduce Ripley in a straight swap for Hendrie, he was brought on for Paul Kerr. This tactical shift proved of

little avail and so, with fewer than ten minutes left, Hendrie edged inside allowing Ripley, easily identified by his peroxide blond hair and black cycling shorts, to move right.

His first run down his favourite touchline not only left Johnrose on his bottom but resulted in the perfect cross from which Bernie Slaven should have done better than hit the woodwork.

Ripley provided a few more such centres, his colleagues contributed further narrow misses, but it was a case of too little too late for Middlesbrough. Any other result, however, would have been harsh on Rovers, for whom Jason Wilcox, who showed real pace, enjoyed an excellent game on left wing. Despite their modest position in the table, on this form Rovers could realistically still qualify for their hitherto annual appearance in the play-offs.

Middlesbrough can do a lot better and will need to on New Year's Day when Sheffield Wednesday visit Teeside. Wednesday stand third, two points clear of Middlesbrough. but they too have been jittery of late and could do no better than draw 2-2 at Oxford. West Ham's unbeaten League run ended at the 22nd hurdle as they succumbed 1-0 at Barnsley.

The London club are now second on goal difference to Oldham Athletic, who they entertain at Unton Park on Boxing Day.

MIDDLESSROUGH: S Pears; C Cooper, J Phillips, A Mowbrey, S Coleman, J Wark, B Slaven, R Mustos, I Baird, P Kerr (sub: S

BLACKBURN: M Graw; M Ations, C Sutley, N Reid, K Hill, K Moran (sub: M Duxbury), C Skinner, P Shepstone, L Johnrose, J Wilcox (sub: L Richardson), R Raferae: G Apiin.

 Gerry Francis, manager of Bristol Rovers, will have hospital treatment this week for a kidney stone. Francis, who missed his side's 1-1 home draw with Newcastle United on Saturday, will have the stone destroyed by laser treatment. His assistant. Des Bulpin, who was in charge of the team in Francis's absence praised his players for their attitude. "They showed great professionalism to

get the job done without him

greater impact in Derby's Barker accepted a free kick by frustration was supplied by Wilkins and knocked the ball the recent signings, Darren into the danger zone, Wright Peacock, at £200,000 from meekly tapped it a few yards Hereford, and Andy Tillson, for £500,000 from Grimsby. pensated at last for the lengthy loss, through injury, of Paul

Parker and Alan McDonald With Peacock close-marking Harford, Maddix on Saunders and Tillson sweep-Derby County needed in- ing behind them, Rangers gave nothing away at the back. hard-driven cross from the afterwards. "I was delighted right rebounded off the de- with the way the two new fence, the system looked likely players settled in after only to earn that first win in ten

Not only were Derby predenied meaningful chances but throughout they found themselved harassed and deprived of space at every turn. It was almost as though they were playing Wimbledon. Derby were never allowed to get their act together.

Worse, they were panicked into a rare and expensive mistake, in the 33rd minute, by Wright, the England deforward.

It went straight to the feet of The two long-legged imports Wegerle, whose shot hit the from the lower reaches com- underside of the bar before bouncing down for his fourteenth goal of the season. Rangers defended that lead desperately as Derby worked up steam increasingly throughout a frenetic second

"It was more of a scrap than And, until Micklewhite's a football match," Howe said one real training session with

The Rangers captain, Wilkins, said: "We thought that at last we had ended our appalling run without a win but a football match lasts 90

DERBY COUNTY: P Shilton; M Sage, N Pickering, P Williams (sub: J Cevanegh), M Wright, M Forsyth, G Mickewhite, D Saunders, M Harford, T Hebberd (sub: C Ramage)

CUEEN'S PARK RANGERS: J Steichel; D Bardeley, K Sansom, A Tilleon, D Pea-cock, D Maddix, R Wiltins, S Barker, M Falco, R Wegerta, A Sinton,

Scrooge's ghost rattles Everton

By DAVID MILLER

Norwich.

EVERTON'S formation, bearing the hallmarks of a man in a gent 3-4-3 formation: Ratcliffe life raft trying to secure a retirement insurance policy. caused problems - for Norwich's attack in particular in the first half-hour, for the spectators in sheer frustration, and for commentators searching for explanation and identification. Everton still-lost, though both they and Norwich knew at the finish that it was the wrong

result on the run of the game. Scrooge this day had been wearing a canary-coloured cap. Pat Nevin, who with Graeme Sharp brings back memories of the distant days when Everton were still in the entertainment business, walked slowly off the field at the finish rubbing his head in disbelief and dismay. His little flicks, lobs and dummies, and the arrival of Sharp midway through the second half Everton's leading post-war scorer with 109 goals and

replacement for the over-priced and aimlessly busy Cottee - had almost given Everton a lifeline. There are those who feel Everton, sixth last season, deserve to survive, but are less sure about their manager, Howard Kendall, back in charge after playing the roulette wheel with Bilbao and Manchester City. Kendall's move from Manchester to Everton lost him friends and any right to expect

loyalty. That makes him no less an astute manager, however, and he should steer Everton Common agreement in the press box labelled Everton's neurotically cautious start a "flexible five-man defence", in which Ratcliffe was sweeper. The defence passed the ball towards Southall, their goal-

keeper, more regularly even

than Norwich did in those

being caught offside. Power, petulantly, seemed to think be deserved a two-yard margin in the linesman's judgement. By my reckoning, Everton's formation was more an intellibehind Keown and Watson, the former Norwich captain, who marked Rosario and Power; right back, McDonald, operating flexibly in midfield with Ebbrell, Atteveld and Hinchcliffe against the Norwich quartet of Gordon, Crook, Sherwood and Phillips; and Nevin

Newell and Cottee/Sharp play-

ing up front. Newell, put clear

by Nevin's lob, would have scored after nine minutes but for Gunn's close-range save. Norwich huffed and puffed to no avail, and it was only Gunn's one-handed save on the halfhour that kept out Newell's farpost header. Moments later Norwich were in front. Rosario forced a frae save out of Gunn; then Gordon, weaving in past two men on the left, struck the foot of the post and there was Poiston, of all people, following through, to smack the rebound into the roof of the net for his

first league goal. Norwich began to get a grip for a while at the start of the second half, and twice Rosario set up moves which might have increased the lead. I wished that the injured Fox had been there to test Everton's uncertainties. Obliged to push forward in search of the equaliser, Everton should have got it. From Nevin's cross, Sharp had a header saved one-handed right on the line by Gunn, and a cross shot by Newell was turned away by Gunn at full stretch. Belatedly, the 14,000 crowd had something

to keep them warm. MORWICH CITY: B Gunn; I Culverhouse, M Bowen, I Butterworth, J Polston, I Crook, D Gordon, L Power, T Sherwood, R Rosario, D Philips.

EVERTON: N Southelt: N McDonald, M Keown (Butz. P Youds), K Ratalitie, D Watson, J Ebbrell, P Nevin, R Atteveld, M Nevent. A Cotton (Butz. P Shere), A Newell, A Cottee (sub: G Sharp),

moments when Power was not Torquay struggle on a slippery slope

AT THE beginning of last month, Torquay United were leading the fourth division by eight points. This morning, they are in third place, trailing Northampton Town by a point and Burnley on goal difference. Had they beaten Maidstone United at Watling Street on Saturday, they would have returned to the top but they drew 2-2, letting slip a two-goal halfime lead. In the process, they lost their central defender Phil Lloyd, with a broken leg. Until then, there had been nothing much between the two teams, neither seeming to know what to do with the ball whenever it came their way. Torquay the lead after 34 minutes, when

Elliott forced home Saunders' corner, and extended it nine minutes later through Tynan. This was Tynau's 250th League goal and he cannot have scored many better. Receiving the ball 30 yards out, he spotted Johns off his line and chipped the ball over him. Maidstone pulled one back in the second half with a goal,

which Dave Smith, the manager of Torquay, thought almost as good as Tynan's. Butler collected Golley's cross on the edge of the penalty area, beat two men, swivelled, and shot low past Howells. Maidstone pressed forward and when Gall burst through from the halfway line, Lloyd

lunged to stop him and was left

in obvious distress. He was

quickly carried off to hospital

KEITH BLACKMORE re views the third and fourth divisions

and after brief exchanges with various Torquay players. Gall was sent off. Smith was cautiously sympathetic. "I think I'm the one who was least incensed about it," he said. "I don't believe players go out of their way to break each

other's legs, although they can

be a bit careless." Maidstone, infuriated by the dismissal, redoubled their efforts and when, with four minutes left, Butler equalised with a simple header, it was no more than they deserved. The decline in Torquay's fortunes will not have gone unnoticed by Southend United the leaders of the third division. They lost to Chester City on Samuday allowing Grimshy Town, who beat Bournemouth 5-0, to move within four points. The outstanding individual feat of the day came at the Valley Parade where Shewsbury Town

scored in each of the 52nd 53rd and 54th minutes. MAIDSTONE UNITED: N Johns; J Roust, I. Henry, L Berry, M Golley, G Stebbing, M Gall, K Elsey, L Osborne, S Butter, G Cooper (sub: K Charlery). TORQUAY UNITED: G Howells; P Whiston, J Uzzell, P Lloyd (sub: M Lorem), M Ellott, W Saunders, P Smith, R Musicer, T Tynen, D Edwards, P Hall.

Referee: V Callow.

beat Bradford City 4-2. Gary

Shaw, once of Aston Villa

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SKIING



Gateway to success: Furuseth winning the slalom in Yugoslavia

Costly slip Furuseth seizes on by World Tomba's mistake Cup leader

MORZINE, France (AP) -Bianca Fernandez-Ochos, of Spain, won the World Cup women's slalom here on Saturday after Petra Kronberger, of Austria, had faltered on the first run. Fernandez-Ochoa had a combined time of 1min 27.66sec after leading the first run with 44.08sec. Second overall was Pernilla

Wiberg, of Sweden, in 1min 28.61sec while Vreni Schneider. of Switzerland, was third after recording the fastest time for the second leg. Kronberger, who had won four of the first six races this season including the first sla-

lom, nearly fell at the start of the first run and missed a gate. She got up and went back through it but finished a long way back in 50.58sec, which put her out of contention for the individual title and the combined event.

RESULTS: Statom: 1, B Fernanciez-Ochos (Sp), 1min 27.86sec; 2, P Wiberg (Swe), 1:28.61; 3, V Schneider (Switz), 1:28.72; 4, F Masneda (Fr), 1:29.62; 5, K Buder (Austria), 1:29.64; 6, C Von Gruenigen (Switz), 1:29.65. Overall statom: 1, (Switz), 1:29.85. Overall statour: 1, Fernandsz-Ochos, 34pts; 2, P Kronberger (Austria), 25; 3, Buder, 22. Combined: 1, I Stoecki (Austria), 50.41pts; 2, Masmada, 50.50; 3, S Ginther (Austria), 52.80; 4, A Wachter (Austria), 57.28; 5, C Bournissen (Switz), 57.40; 6, S Schuster (Austria), 67.87. Overall combined: 1, Stoecki, 25pts; 2, Masmada, 20; 3, Ginther, 15, Overall World Curp: 1, Kronberger, 140; 2, Bournissen, 57; 3, Wachter, 47, National Cup: 1, Austria, 758pts; 2, Switzerland, 364; 3, Germany, 282.

Furnseth, of Norway, cruised to his second World Cup slalom success of the season on Saturday, finishing ahead of Tomas Fogdoe, of Sweden, helped by the disqualification of Antonio

Furuseth's aggregate time was lmin 46.80sec, leaving Fogdoe 0.15 seconds behind. It was the second runner-up spot for the young Swede in four World Cup slalom races this season. On Saturday, he and Furuseth profited from a mistake by Alberto Tomba, of Italy, who missed a

gate in the first heat. "My next step should be a victory in a World Cup race," Fogdoe said. "For now I'm satisfied with what I had achieved so far. I didn't even dream about this success before the start of this season." Furuseth and Fogdoe were

also 1-2 in the previous World Cup slalom in Madonna Di Campiglio, Italy, last Tuesday. Tomba still leads the overall standings with 97 points, but with the Saturday triumph, Furuseth is second, nine points behind the Italian. "It was very difficult, but I'm happy that I won," said Furuseth who fell in a giant slalom on Friday won by Tomba. "I had to fight hard to beat Fogdoe, who will be a tough rival in the coming slaloms." Furuseth trailed Fogdoe by 0.53sec in the first run, but had

KRANISKA GORA, Yugo- by far the best time, 54.01sec, in slavia (AP) — Ole-Christian the second leg. The Norwegian, who had finished behind Pirmin Zurbriggen for the overall title last season, achieved his fifth World Cup win of his career. He said: "I never think about winning the overall title. I only

concentrate on the next race." Tomba, who is known for his aggressive style, said, after stepping on a gate midway in the first run, that he made the mistake because he was too daring. "After winning yesterday, I risked too much by pushing too hard on this difficult course," Tomba said. Marc Girardelli, of Luxent-

bourg, three times a World Cup champion, was fourth in Imin 47.93sec. Girardelli, plagued by injury last season, is third overall with 78 points.

The steep Vitranc course had 65 and 61 gates in the two runs. Three Austrian first-group starters, Hubert Strolz, Rudoff Nierlich and Michael Tritscher, already dropped out in the first heat. They were joined by their teammate Bernhard Gstrein in

RESULTS: Sieloss: 1, O-C Furuseth (Nor), 1min 46.80sec; 2, T Fogdoe (Swe), 1:46.95; 3, T Stangestinger (Austria), 1:47.91; 4, M Girardelli (Lux), 1:47.93; 5, T Okabe (Japan), 1:49.15; 6, G Mader (Austria), 1:49.90. Overall slatoss: 1, Furuseth, 73pts; 2, Fogdoe, 50; 3, Girardelli, 48. Overall World Cup; 1. A Tomba (It), 97pts; 2, Furuseth, 58; 3, Girardelli, 78.

RACKETS

Windows in sparkling form

By SALLY JONES

MATTHEW Windows, of Clifton, the favourite, retained the Foster Cup, the senior event of the Public School champion-ships at Queen's Club, London, on Saturday, with an outstanding display against the talented Etonian, Alexander Smith-Bingham, in a replay of last year's

Windows, a powerful lefthander, stunned the packed gallery with his speed off the mark and thunderous floorplay, which allowed him to

BOXING

ROMORANTIN, France: European light-heavyweight championship: Tom Collins (GB, holder) to Christophe Grard (Fr), 2nd md.

CRESTA RUN

ST MORITZ: Berliev Bear (for Instent time on opening day): 1, C Bertshinger (Switz), 44.23.

CRICKET

Stephish D Strip Dt Teatrania 335 and 134; Queensland 186 and 288 (A Border 58; D Gibert 4-51). Teamenia won by 14 mass. New South Weles 601-4 dec; Western Australia 314 and 475-7 (T Zoeters 133 not out, K MacLeay 102 not out). Masch Crewn.

IELAMARAD: Queld-Hazam Trophy: One-day matches: Karachi Whites 156-9 (40)

overs): Bahawaipur 126 all out (36.2). Karachi won by 29 runs. Ramaipinus 162 all out (38.4): Sargodha 145-7 (40). Ramaipinul won by 17 runs. Four-day muscle: Bahawaipur 196 all out

dominate the front of the court and make winners off many of his opponent's best strokes. The stylish Smith-Bingham fought back valiantly in the third game from 5-12 down to 12-13, taking the initiative and hitting a string of spectacular backhand winners but he missed

a couple of chances through over-easerness, allowing the clinical Windows to clinch the

In the final of the Incledon-

determined style to defeat the second seed, Julian Coutts, of Radley, after an entertaining

Webber Cup for under-16s, the

top seed, Harry Foster, of

Harrow, winner of the under-15

event last year, looked a fine

prospect as he hit out in

R2SULTS: Foster Cupt Final: M Windows (Clifton) bt A Smith-Bington (Elon), 15-9, 15-0, 15-12 Incledon-Webber Cup: Final: H Foster (Herrow) bt J Coutts (Radiey), 15-5, 6-15, 18-14, 15-12. Renny Cup: Frost: A Scammell (Malvern) bt R Hunter (Radiey), 15-10, 15-11, 14-17, 15-12.

ATHLETICS

Ailing Wallace lacks the puff when it counts

By DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

victory would not count; yes- clear of Wallace. terday, trying to make amends, she finished fourth in the second race in Ninove, Belgium, beaten thought, as the opposition. fewer than the stipulated 12

dards. Yesterday, the number ham international meeting on was exceeded comfortably. Wallace was blowing away the cobwebs of a three-week cold; cobwebs do not always disappear at first blow and when the big puff came at the finish, she was found wanting. Two Africans and a Belgian beat her

Rwanda provided the winner Women: 1, M Mukamuren: (Rwanda), and was not, for once, casting Secara (Bett. 13:09, Loading British: 4, A envious glances at its inter-

LUCK has been against Andrea bours, Kenya and Ethiopia. Wallace, Britain's leading Rwanda was on the map to woman cross-country runner, those who could remember the these past few weeks. She won name of Marciana the first World Cross Challenge Mukamurenzi. Mukamurenzi month only to be told that her Kenya, finishing five seconds

"I found it difficult because l could not breathe properly," Wallace said. "At halfway I was as much by recent illness, she feeling comfortable, but I just did not have it in me at the end. Wallace's win in Bolbec was I am not too disappointed annulled because there were because I know there is nothing athletes in the field who met

Wallace hopes to prove the World Cross Challenge stan- fault is temporary in the Dur-Saturday. She may need her best finish there, though: Snezana Pajkic, of Yugoslavia, the European 1,500 metres champion, is among the entries. WORLD CROSS CHALLENGE (Ninove): Men: 1, V Rousseau (Ber), 22mm 51sec. 2, E Brick (Ken), 22.54; 3, A Sito (Arg.), 22.58.

Loading British: 6, M McLougnien, 23:07; 8, J Nottoli, 23:09; 11, D McNe:ly, 23:14; 15, A Bristow, 23:27. nationally successful neigh- Wallace, 13:12; 8, S Elis, 13:24, 12, J

ional marathon coach.

Marathon effort over

KIM McDonald, Peter Elliott's coach, has been forced to abandon his ambitious plan to help Kenya discover new marathon talent (David Powell writes). He returned from Nairobi at the weekend "angry and disappointed" that his permit to stage a trial race there, in order to set up a marathon squad, had been

McDonald, whose management agency represents many of the world's leading athletes, was to have staged a half-marathon in Nairobi on January 6, from which the best prospects were to have been selected for a threemonth training camp. Coaching was to have been under Alan Storey, the British Amateur Athletic Board's former nat-

YACHTING

Autissier snaps her main mast

From Bob Ross IN SYDNEY

ISABELLE Autissier, of France. aged 36, the only woman still sailing in the BOC singlehanded around the world race, broke the main mast on her Ecureuil Poitiou-Charantes 60 nautical miles off the northeast coast of Tasmania early yesterday morning.

She is trying to sail her yawlrigged 60ft yacht on to Sydney, 357 miles away and was still making 5.4 knots yesterday. She intended to jury-rig some more sail with her boom, in place of the main mast, which broke at the first spreaders.

Autissier, in sixth place, broke her main mast when she was sailing to windward, in 35-40 knot headwinds, under reefed mainsail and furled No. 2 genoa. She fell off a big wave and the mast snapped. Meantime, an intense south-

erly low, with winds of 60 to 70 knots, gusting to 80 three times. knocked flat the Australian. Don McIntyre, aboard Sponsor Wanted, and Josh Hall, on the British yacht, New Spirit of Ipswich. They were in the Great Australian Bight, about 300 miles south of Adelaide. McIntyre reported that the wind was "screaming" and the water was "smoking"

The first leg winner, Christophe Auguin, of France, sailing the Group Finot-designed Groupe Sceta, finished the second leg 18 hours after the leg winner, John Martin.

RESULTS: Second leg (Cape Town to Sydney): 1. Allied Bank (J. Martin, SA), 26 days Birr 47min 23eec; 2, Groupe Sceta (C. Auguin, Fr), 27:00:45.02; 3, Generali Concorde (A. Gautier, Fr), 27:03:55.14. Accustaulative (lega one and two): 1, Allied Bank, 64:02:35.7; 2, Groupe Sceta, 64:18:45.31; 3, Generali Concorde. 64:18:45:31; 3, Generali Concorde, 65:07:37.63.

in November, I was assured by David Okeyo, the general secretary of the Kenyan AAA, and Mike Boit, the Kenyan commissioner for sport, that ail necessary permission had been obtained," McDonald said. "A permit had been issued by the ministry on December 7, but they suddenly withdrew their permission without giving any

"At the New York Marathon

The likelihood of McDonald continuing with his proposal to set up the first international permit track and field meeting in Kenya has receded. "I will have to think long and hard before getting involved in other events in Kenya," he said.

IN BRIEF

Rothmans doubles up THE British maxi, Rothmans,

skippered by Lawrie Smith, won the third race of the Asia Pacific championship as well as taking

line honours on Saturday. The win, by 2min 23sec on corrected time from the Sydney Farr two-tonner, Madeline's Daughter (Peter Kurts), was achieved despite a broken wire headsail sheet 300 metres from the finish. GOLF: The Irishman, Harry

Bradshaw, who lost a play-off for the 1949 Open Championship to Bobby Locke at Sandwich, has died, aged 77. ROWING: Hill Samuel, the merchant bankers, will sponsor the British women's team up to the Olympic Games in 1992. ATHLETICS: lan Archibald became the first athlete since 1975 other than Mike McLeod to win the Saltwell 10km road race at Gateshead yesterday. With McLeod prevented from going for his 17th successive win by a heavy cold, Archibald won

in 30min 28sec. The shot put world record holder, Randy Barnes, has asked the United States' track and field governing body to lift his suspension for steroid use. CYCLING: Paul Curran, the double Commonwealth gold medal winner, who has raced as a professional for the past two seasons, has applied for reinstatement as an amateur. FOOTBALL: The French first division match between Toulon

and Paris St Germain was abandoned after a missile struck a linesman in the face. TENNIS: The Grand Slam Cup winner, Pete Sampras, has withdrawn from this week's Hopman Cup team event SNOOKER: Martin Clark's first professional title came in Monte Carl where he beat Ray Reardon 4-2 in the final of the

invitation European Grand Masters.

SNOCKER

MONTE CARLO: European Grand Masters: Semi-finals: R Registon (Wales) bi N Bond (Eng.), 3-2, M Clark (Eng.) bi D Morgan (Wales), 3-2. Final: Clark bt Residon, 4-2.

TENNIS

HELBOURNE: International youth champ-lenship: Finale: Boyo: L. Paes (India) bi J Eagle (Aus), 7-5, 6-7, 6-4 Girls: N van Lottom (Fr) bt K Godnige (Aus), 6-3, 6-1.

RUGBY LEAGUE

SLALOW LAGER ALLIANCE: Bradford North-

BARLA YORKSHURE CUP: Finsk Cutsyka 14,

YACHTING

SYDNEY: Asia Pacific championship: Third race: 1, Rothmans (L. Smith, GB), 2hr 34min 23mm (corrected thank: 2, Medaline's Osugh-

ern 26, Dewisbury 20, Huli KR 34, Leeds 32.

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS BASKETBALL ICE HOCKEY NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Thereday: Atlanta Hants 105, Utan Jazz 87; Socion Caltice 115, Charlotte Hornets 98; Houston Roctets 128, Orlando Magic 125 (OT); Golden State Werriors 125, Portland Trail Blazzes 118; Seattle SeperSonics 110, Secremento Kings 75. Priday: Inchese Pacers 137, Charlotte Hornets 114; Philadelphia 76ers 128, Mami Heet 103; Naw Jersey Nets 111, Clevetard Cavatiers 103; Detroit Platons 113, Atlanta Hawtos 87; Washington Bullets 87, New York Knicks 86; Delies Mevericks 103, Mineralize Bucks 88; Sen Amenio Spurs 132, Phoenix Suns 128; Portland Trail Blazers 117, Los Angeles Céopers 107, Seturday: Washington Bullets 109, Cleveland Cavatiers 88; New York Knicks 106, New Jersey Nets 98; Utah Juzz 104, Orlando Magic 98; Philadelphia 76ers 108, Detroit Platons 99; Chicago Bulle 129, Indiana Pacers 116; Houston Rockets 122, Phoenix Suns 102, Milyaukse Bucks 114, San Aytonio Spurs 98; Dalles Mavericks 118, Denver Muggets 110; Seattle SuperSonics 121, Sacrassento Kings 83; Golden State Wartiors 115, Mirraeota Timbervolves 102. COULSDON: South London Harriers lands-tion cross-country race (10 miles): 1, P Stenning (Harcules Wimbledon), 55min 18eec; 2, J Rhodes (South London Harriers), 50:41; 3, C Edgington (South London Harriers), 58:52. Veteran: H Hughes (South London Harriers), 61min 00sec. Women: 5 Trevett (Reignte Priory), 89:08. CRANFORD: Inter-clab cross-country seech (4.5 miles): 1, P Niertic (Hillingdon), 21stin 46sec; 2, G Lavers (Hillingdon), 21sti; 8, N Barton (Themas Valley Herriers), 22:29. Teams: 1, Hillingdon, 30pts; 2, Thames Valley Harriers, 36; 3, Esting and Southell, 51. HOCHESTER: Tom Joyce Nemotial road noisy (4 x 2.5 minst: 1, invicts East Kern, 47min 32sec; 2, Medway, 47:37; 3, GEC Avionics, 47:45, Fastest inpe: 1, B Rolyden (Medway), 11min 23sec; 2, M Gratton (Invicts East Kent), 11:32; 3, S Fairbrother (Boschil),

ROCHESTER: Combridge Harders contenuty volumes road roley (4 x 2.6 miles): 1, Cumbridge Herriers, Stanin Conec; 2, Alderstot, 51:17; 3, Blackbeath, 52:42. Feature tage K Penny (Cembridge Harriers), 12:19, Over-Ste: Aktembot, 52:59. Pestest lep: L Presiend (Alceration), 12:32. OSTEND: Ciriatures tournment: World Bislatbell Leagus (US) 180, Lee Jeans 112; Ostend 103, Den Helder (Noth) 101. QATESHEAD: Suitmeit Metre Fili read sace (10km): 1, 1 Archibaid (Washingson), 30min 20sec; 2, 1 Elis (Newport Herriera), 30:40; 3, C Naisbett (Sunderland), 30:43. Vetacar: A Whitseld (Chester-le-Street), 31:43. Team; 1, Sunderland, 82pts; 2, Durism City, 100; 3, Slaydon Harriera, 106. Women: 1, 5 Catford (Leads City), 36:58; 2, K Mischell (Tynedale), 38:27; 3, L Marr (Tynedale), 38:28. HAARLEM, The Metherlande: Hearlem strempleneble: Tallim (USSR) 95. Merethon OII (US) 76; Nashus Lasers (Neth) 106, Atheses in Action (US) 104.

MANCHESTER DISTRICT (25 miles): A Rob-erts (Craws Citation), 57min 39esc (record). Teast: Team Repids. BORDER CA (15jan): D Wright (Famhan), OVERLISE, Balgiust: Superpresting com-patition: Qualifying round: 1, D De Big (Bel); 2, R Sirpunek (Cz); 3, T Friedhitzectz (Swizz).

CYCLO-CROSS

RUGBY UNION

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Kent Under-18 14, Surrey Under-18 0; East Wates Schools 7, Australian Schools 32 (at Newbridge). County championship: Yorkshire Under-18 29, Cum-tris Under-16 8. U-18 County Mainte: Somer-set 18, Gloucestershire 16. TOULCUSE: Incometional Masters: Third-place play-off: Fiji 80, Bath 19. Finet: Toulcuse 21, Queensland 10. DERBYSHRIE CUP: Setal-finale: Derby 24, Amber Valley 8. Heres, Lince and Derbyshice Cup: First round: Astronome 12, Spaiding 9. WARWICKSHIRE CUP: Second round Old Leamingtoniane 39, O Wheatlyans 6. NORFOLK CUP: Seed-dinete: North Watehore 30, Holt 0. REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Middlesex. Under-21 20, Kent Under-21 20.

CLUB MATCH: O Putteriums 0, Sutton and

MOSCOTP: Izveetle togmement: Soviet Union 2, Czachostovaide 2; Fintend 2, Sweden 2. Finel pieclege: 1, Soviet Union; 2, Sweden; 3, Czechoslovaida; 4, Fintend; 5, Canada. Czschoslovskie; 4, Financ; 5, Canada.
NATIONAL LEAGUE (Mill.: Friday: Bostori
Bruins 4, Buffalo Sabree 1; Detroit Fled Wings
3, Winnipeg Jets 1; New York lelanders 4,
Hartlord Wheters 2; Philipdelphia Rivers 3,
New Jersey Devils 3 (OT); Pizzburgh Perquins 4, Mannesota North Sters 3; St Louis
Blues 3, Washington Capitals 3 (OT); Los
Angeles Kings 4, Calgary Flames 3; Vancouver Canucia 7, Edmonson Otiers 4, Saterday:
Toronso Maple Leats 5, Washington Capitals
2; Boston Bruins 8, Misnesota North Sters 2;
Hartlord Wheters 1, Philadelphia Flyers 0;
Pitzburgh Penguins 4, New York Islanders 3;
New Jersey Devils 4, Cuebec Nordigues 1;
Edmonton Otiers 6, Calgary Flames 2;
Montreal Canadiens 3, New York Rangers 1;
Vascouver Canadiens 3, New York Rangers 1;
Vascouver Canadiens 6, Winnipeg Jets 2; St
Louis Blues 5, Calgago Blackhawks 0. HEINERGEN LEAGUE: Premier divinios: Ayr 5, Murrayfield 12: Prie 5, Certiff 8; Nottinghern 10, Durham 2: Peterborough 8, Whitley 2: Piret divisios: Besingstoke 11, Medwey 5; Humberside 4, Flornford 5; Slough 12, Lee Valley 9; Tationd 11, Glasgow 14. ENGLISH LEAGUE: Milton Keynes 12, Richmond 5; Sheffeld 8, Harringey 3; Sunderland 10, Blackburn 7.

KARATE SUBAL: World champlenetipe (Japan unless stated): Steet: Team: 1, Syris; 2, Japan; 3, Spain. Individual teamlin: 1, M Kagawa; 2, N Artmoto; squal 3, Y Jung Koh (Kor) and P Teaming (Nepul). Individual leste: 1, Kagawa; 2, M E Nadar-Berge (Iran); 3, Arimoto. Wesses: individual leste: 1, M Assno; 2, Y Assno; 3, K Kerniye. Individual leste: 1, M Sayd (Mor); 2, K Merriotz (Aus); 3, K Boustani (Mor).

FA YOUTH CUP: Miles 3, Portsmouth 1. EMOLISM SCHOOLS COUNTY CHAMP-IONSHIP: Buckinghamshire 0, Surrey 4; Hertfordshire 1, Essex 0; Ioner London 2, ENGLISH SCHOOLS TROPHY: Facility round second replay: Neucestie 1, Dorby 1 (not).

FOOTBALL

LACROSSE BRIME MORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Heaton Hersey 20, Sale 6; Mellor 9, Timperley 2; Old Stoplordiene 6, Old Hulmelans 16; 2; Old Stopforders 6, Old Hutmeteris 16; Stockport 8, Old Wacontens 5. Second division: Ashton 8, Rochdale 6; Mourthorps 15, Wilmstow 3. Third division: Heaton Mersey B 3, Old Stopforders A 8; Old Hutmeters A 13, Boardman and Eccles A 4; Rochdale 6; Mourthorps A 4; Rochdale 6; Mourthon B 5, Old Hutmeters A 13, Boardman and Eccles A 4; Rochdale 6; Rochd Poynton 16, Heaton Mersey Guild & Sale A.3.

PIANCAVALLO, Raily: Freestyle World Cup: Ballet Mer: 1, R Kristleman (Nor.), 29.50pts; 2, L Spine (US), 29.30; 3, D Welker (Can.), 27.85; 4, A Weles (Ger.), 28.46; 5, H Beumgertner (Switz.), 26.05; 6, J Wintersteen (US), 25.30. Overall placings (after 4 meetings); 1, Spine, 73pts; 2, Kristleman, 72; 3, Weles, 67; 4, Beumgertner, 66; 5, R Franco (t), 84; 6, Wintersteen, 63, Wesses: 1, C Koseling (Switz.), 27.65pts; 2, J Bucher (US), 26.20; 3, C Fechoz (Fr.), 25.50; 4, E Breen (US), 24.80; 5, K Hutter (US), 23.00; 6, J Shell (GB), 21.85. Other Britist: 14, J Curry, 19.50; 15, V Simpson, 19.40. Overall (after 4 meetings); 1, Klesling, 36pts; 2, Bucher, 33; equal 3, Fechoz and Breen, 30; 5, Hunter, 23; 6, Snell, 21. Aertalu: Merz 1, C Fedderson (US), 218.32pts; 2, P Laroche (Can), 210.20; 3, J-M Bacquin (Fr), 195.69; 4, T Worthington (US), 194.72; 5, M De Ruiter (Neth), 193.54; 6, J Ross (Can), 192.20. Overall: 1, Laroche, 73pts; 2, Bacquin, 69; 3, Fedderson, 65; 4, Worthing-ton, 63; 5, M Roth (Switz), 56; 6, Poucras, 56. Women: 1, E Straten (Ger), 165,45pts; 2, K Marshall (Austrie), 150,50; 3, S Michaeleti (US), 136,18; 4, C Brand (Switz), 136,12; 5, M Lindoren (Swell, 138,88; 6, L Johansen (Swe), 129.75. Britist: 9, J Curry, 125.29. Overall: 1, Sknichen, 33pts; 2, H Lld (Nor), 30; 3, Lomberd, 27; 4, Lindgren, 23; 5, Mershall, 22; 6, Brand, 20.

J W LEES BREWERY UNIVERSITY MAYCHOxford v Cumbridge: Slatone: Meet: 1, S
Priedram (Cambridge: Slatone: Meet: 1, S
Priedram (Cambridge: Churchill, Cornell, US),
B0.09eec; 2, A Dechet (Oxford; Jesus,
Princeton Univ, US), B1.67; 3, P Prince (Camb;
Corpus Christi, Cuintin Kynasson), 83.01; 4, R
Banders (Ox: Mempn, Windhesser), 83.27; 5,
W McKimm (Camb; Cleme, Lisgar Cotiege,
Cambridge, Switz, Cambridge, B0.15;
2, L Omond (Camb; New Hale, Bryanston),
83.53; 3, A Bischburne (Camb; Corpus Christi,
Algion College, Switz), 87.17; 4, F Graham
(Ox; Oriel, Kelo University, Jepan), 89.79; 5, S
Kearley (Camb; Selwyn, International School
of Geneva), 82.57. Overall combined (glant
stalom) and stalomi: Meet: 1, Dechet; 2,
Sanders; 3, McKimm, 4, R Gernst-Cox (Camb;
Pembroke, Radiey); 5, J Franklin-Adems (Ox;
New College, Rindley). Women: 1, LeesJones; 2, Ormand; 3, Grehem: 4, Bisckburne;
6, Kearley.

CLEEN'S CLUR: Public echools champles-shipe: Fester Cap: Senior singles: Seni-fibrils: M Windows (Cilitori) bt P Le Marchend (Torbridge), 6-15, 15-7, 18-8, 15-9; A Smith-Bingham (Elon) bt S Guillebeud, 15-7, 15-9, 15-11. Reany Cup: Semi-Braile: R Hunter (Radley) bt J Baird (Torbridge), 15-11, 10-15, 10-15, 15-9, 18-1; A Scammell (Malvern) bt M Dawson (Cilitori), 15-10, 15-6, 16-8, Inciedon-Webber Cap: Sami-finale: H Foster (Herrow) bt J Etringhem (Winchester), 15-1, 18-13, 25-10; J Cousts (Racky) bt G Raes (Cittor), 15-12, 4-15, 15-12, 7-15, 15-3. Jim Deer Cup; First: C Roberds (Rugby) bt R Watter

23sec (corrected time): 2. Medeline's Deughter (P Kurts, Aus), 2:35:45; 3, Sepacious V (G Appleby, Aus), 2:37:47; 4, Western Port Venture (P Grient, Aus), 2:38:01; 5, Prime Factor (R Brady, Aus), 2:38:33, 6, Enricabelle (G Snow, Aus), 2:39:19; 7, Utimese Challenge (L Abrahama, Aus), 2:40:44. Progressive poliste: 1, Sepacious, 136; 2, Western Port Venture, 135.5; 3, Prime Factor, 132; 4, Rottimene, 124; 5, Madeline's Daughter, 119.5; 6, Litiment Challenge, 116.6; 7, Venture One (M Ryan, Aus), 109, International progressivement eyetems 1, Continental (M Champion, Aus), 2tr 48:min 44:sec; 2, Haupia (T Johnston, Aus), 2:49:05; 3, Never A Dull Moment (C Wilson, Aus), 2:51:50, Progressive: 1, Haupia, 71pts: 2, Continental, 70.5; 3, Never A Dull Moment, 70.5; SCOTLAND Calingoria: Snow level, 2,150fc vertical runs, 1,000tt, Runs: upper, some complets; middle and lower, no sking. Access roads open; chairlits closed; tows, closed. Glenshee, Lacht, Acnach Mor and Cleacest insufficient snow for sking, Forecast The eastern resorts of Lecht, Calmgoria and Glenshee will have a bright day with sunny improvals, and some scattered show and sleet showers. The cloud base will be broken at 3,500tt, falling to 2,000ft at times. In the western resorts of Giencoe and Aonach Mor, a cloudier day is expected with frequent sleut or show. Overcast conditions, with the cloud base at 2,000ft, taking to 1,000ft in heavier showers. Hill fog will affect at areas, with the treating level at 1,500 to 2,000ft. Minds will be strong or gala force south to southwesterty, guilting to 70mpn on summits. Drifting snow and bizzard

RACKETS

conditions are expected. Outlook: Unsettled and windy, with longer periods of rain, falling as snow on higher parts. Information supplied by the Scottleh

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• FOOTBALL 26, 27

Arsenal settle for moral victory By Stuart Jones ROUTBALL CORRESPONDENT By STUART JONES STUART

Aston Villa

Arsenal

ARSENAL created a club record yesterday but lost further ground on the leaders. In spite of surpassing their pre-vious best start of 17 games without defeat in 1947, a season which they finished as the champions, they now lie six points behind Liverpool

who have a game in hand.

The size of the gap might appear to be dispiriting but Arsenal keep responding to disheartening events. Shortly after suffering their worst home defeat for 69 years at the hands of Manchester United, for instance, they dismantled Liverpool 3-0, a result which could yet carry beavy significance.

Their immediate reaction to the potentially worrying loss of Tony Adams, their inspirational leader, who will be unavailable for at least four months, was almost as convincing. Had they completed one of several promising attacks they would have become the first visitors this season to win at Villa Park, Andy Linighan, a £1.3 mil-

lion acquisition from Norwich City, was brought in to fill the vacancy and, although his distribution was either tentative or wayward, he was otherwise as efficient as the rest of George Graham's unit. "You would never have thought that that was his

debut, would you?" his manager asked. Aston Villa were limited to three genuine openings and one of those was inadvertently forced by a deflection off the

referee. "It was a good team performance," Graham said. "We dominated the game and we played like the home side. The only thing that was lacking

was the finishing touch." Alan Smith, who has been in such prolific form of late, was the most guilty party. He was denied early in the first half by Nigel Spink, the Villa goalkeeper, who was voted the man of the match, and early in the second half by his own

inaccuracy. Graham felt aggrieved that Arsenal were not awarded a penalty in the 67th minute when Perry Groves appeared to be brought down by Andy Comyn. The challenge was unquestionably clumsy and ill timed but even a slow motion replay on television failed to provide convincing evidence that the young Villa defender should have been punished.

Arsenal, captained by Paul Davis, should not have required official assistance anyway. But for the outstanding contribution of Paul McGrath, who never lost concentration as he patrolled at the back, and the equally alert Spink, they would have finished with a more substantial reward than a moral victory.



First division leaders

Nevertheless, Graham had few complaints. "If anybody had told me in August that we would be going into Christmas undefeated, I would have laughed. We have had a few problems but we keep bouncing back. The spirit, which is essential for any club which wants to challenge for the title,

2pts deducted

is excellent." He explained that his curious decision to replace the enterprising Anders Limpar with David Rocastle, who has long been out of favour, was based on uncharacterically sentimental grounds as well as

for tactical reasons. "We were losing shape up front and I thought I would give Rocastle a chance to blossom again."

MATCH FACTS

Villa have never been a force since they were knocked out of the Uefa Cup by Internazionale and Gordon Cowans, the central cog in their wheel, was especially subdued.

responsible for any of the chances they created. Instead, the designers were lan Ormondroyd and Tony

The leaden-footed Tony Cascarino scorned the first and the gangly Ormondroyd the second. The third, in the closing minutes, was almost decisive but David Platt, having thrust himself typically into the area, was blocked by David Seaman. Arsenal's defiance was evident unto the last. ASTON VILLA: N Spinic, C Price, S Gray, P McGrath, A Comyn, K Nielsen, A Daley, D Platt. I Ormondroyd, G Cowens, A Cascarino. ARSENAL: D Seamen; L Dixon, I Winterburn, M Thomas, S Bould, A Linighan, P Groves, P Davis, A Smith, I

Merson, A Limpar (sub: D Rocastie).

Ret: N Midgley. Att: 22,687. At Villa Park. HT: 0-0. ASTON VILLA O **ARSENAL 0** Scorers: Cautions: -Rocastle 72 (Limpar) **ASTON VILLA** ARSENAL Shots (on target/total) Corners (left/right) Crosses (left/right) Free kicks/pens conceded Cautions/sendings off Possession (gained/lost)

ARSENAL ASTON VILLA

Compiled by Julian Desborough.

Passions run too high for safety at Roker Park

By LOUISE TAYLOR

Sunderland.

Leeds United.

PASSION is never lacking in encounters between these teams. Sadly, yesterday's encounter at Roker Park showed its ugly side when John Kay. the Sunderland right back, was sent off for a nasty two-footed tackie on Peter Haddock in the 53rd minute. Haddock was removed on a stretcher, but not before Howard Wilkinson, the Leeds manager, had run onto the pitch to remonstrate with Kay.

Afterwards Wilkinson said: "The boy is in a mess. It looks as if he has been run over by a tractor, and he has had stitches in the left leg and there are stud marks on both legs. We fear something may be broken and he will be staying in hospital in Leeds. If Kay went for the ball it must be an enormous ball - it was a distraceful tackle."

uncompromising defender with Stoke City, said: "Maybe nowadays that is a reckless challenge, but in my day it would have been all right. It is John's job to go in hard."

Football-wise, emotions ran too high for the liking of purists, but most of the 24,000-strong crowd were too partisan to care about such niceties. Regrettably, some were too committed for their own good, and police had to support rival supporters off the pitch after Mel Sterland scored the winning goal for Leeds in the eightieth minute.

Although Leeds enjoyed the edge in the midfield during the first half, it was Sunderland who created the only clear-cut scoring chances. Both fell to Marco Gabbiadini. The first came almost directly from the kick-off, but John Lukic somehow managed to scramble his shot away for a Twenty-five minutes later Gabbiadini's pace again enabled him to beat the Leeds off-side trap, but his rising

Denis Smith, the Sunder-

Gabbiadini's discomfited Whyte and Fairclough, the Leeds central defence pairing, to the point where Whyte was booked after taking out his frustrations in a crude challenge on the Eng-

land B forward.

Kay had received his marching orders before Sunderland had created another chance. Gabbiadini again showing Fairclough a clean pair of beels, only for Colin Pascoe to shoot wide.

Lukic later performed acrobatics to repel a header from Bennett, but when Sterland struck the winner an awkwardly swerving 20yard effort which Norman got a hand to but failed to hold -Sunderland were left to reflect on what might have been.

SUNDERLAND: A Norman; J Kay. Hardyman, G Bennett, K Ball, G Owers, P Bracewell, G Armstrong, R Ord, M Gabblachni, C Pascoe (sub: W Hawk).

LEEDS UNITED: J Lukic; M Sterland, P Haddock (sub: G Snooth), D Barry, C Ferctough, C Whyse, G Strachen, C Shutt, L Chapman, G McAllister, G Speed.

as England toil

From Alan Lee, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT, BALLARAT

England are improving. The prompt for his remark was a scrambled draw against the team which makes a habit of finishing bottom of Australia's Sheffield Shield. The bleak conclusion is that there remains an awful lot of improving to be done.

There can be few better definitions of a struggling cricket side than one reliant on Devon Malcolm's batting for survival. Yesterday, for the second time on tour, Malcolm, suppressing his usual extravagance with exaggerated caution, attempted to negotiate the final few overs of an important game.

This time he succeeded, if not without alarms and excursions, so that although England's first-class record still shows nil in the wins column after five fixtures, it looks marginally better than had seemed likely for much of a windy, showery evening in Ballarat

England had been asked by Victoria's captain, Simon O'Donnell, to score 304 in 71 overs on a virtually unblemished pitch. It was a declaration Gooch considered "very fair", but any scope for an uplifting victory was relinquished by a series of flabby strokes. With Allan Lamb unable to bat, the rigid discipline and renewed confidence of Robin Smith was England's salvation and consolation.

Coming into this match, Smith had been a poor imitation of the player widely expected to have a great influence on the Test series. Something intangible began to function again for him here, and in two innings he batted more than five hours, in contrasting modes, without being dismissed. It was a rich bonus from another deflating

A record

number of

dismissals

THE total of 15 sendings off,

with four yesterday following

11 on Saturday, made the

weekend the worst for ill-

discipline in the Football

in two days when he was

dismissed in the 1-0 defeat at

home to Leeds United yes-

terday while three players

were shown the red card in the

space of 90 seconds in the

goalless second division

match between Leicester City

Leicester's Paul Ramsey

and David Byrne, of Watford

were dismissed for fighting

and Keith Dublin, the Wat-

ford defender, followed

shortly for comments made to

The previous highest num-

ber of dismissals in a single

League programme was 13 on

December 14, 1985 and the

last instance of sendings-off

reaching double figures on one

day was on January 28, 1989,

when 10 players were dis

This season's total of play-

ers sent off has now reached

105: 81 in the League, 16 in

the Rumbelows League Cup, 4

in the FA Cup and 4 in the

Leyland Daf Cup. This time

last year, the total was 89 - 68

League, 15 Littlewoods Cup,

FA Cup and 5 Zenith Data

Systems Cup dismissals. The

total number of sendings off

last season was 189 - 162

League, 19 Littlewoods Cup, 2

FA Cup. 5 Zenith Data Sys-

sendings off was 1982-83.

when 242 players were dis-

missed - 211 in the League,

19 in the FA Cup and 12

FIRST DIVISION: Navim (Tottenham Hotspur), Van Den Hatwie (Tottenham Hotspur), Hughes (Luton Town), Curte (Wimbledon), Kaye (Sunderland), SECOND DIVISION: Scott (Newcastle

SECOND DIVISION: Scott (Newcastle United), Sulley (Blackburn Rovers), Byrne (Watford), Dublin (Watford), Remady (Leicester City).
THERD DIVISION: Mauge (Bury), Jesper (Crews Alexandra), Mertin (Huddersteid Town).

FOURTH DIVISION: Gall (Maidstone United), Davies (Hardepool United).

League Cup.

Voekend dismissals

tems Cup and 1 Leyland Daf

worst scason for

the Leicester bench.

and Watford.

John Kay, the Sunderland

League's 102-year history.

At start of play England were perhaps marginal favourites. Malcolm, correcting his radar problems of the first innings, had made deep inroads into the Victorian batting on Saturday afternoon, and all England needed was an early breakthrough yesterday to earn a very accessible

They were denied the luxdefender, became the fifth first ury by Merv Hughes, who laid division player to be sent off about him to such effect that Victoria's eighth-wicket pair added 60 unbroken runs in a truncated session before the declaration.

Hughes was not yet finished. A feature of England's first innings had been his duel with Atherton, the macho pace bowler against the impassive academic. Atherton batted five hours and won

GRAHAM Gooch believes hands down, so it was all the more disappointing yesterday to see him surrender an important initiative by mis-hooking Hughes straight to

Stewart was bowled by one which turned excessively; Gooch, having done the groundwork for the long innings he craves, gave it away with a reprehensible slog against the spinner. Then came a Gower vignette, exquisite strokes blended with exasperating air shots. He made 54 and hit eight fours before, in characteristic fashion, getting out at the very moment when he seemed in utter command.

Smith remained runless on 40 for 46 minutes while further wickets tumbled around him, and six overs remained when Malcolm, promoted ahead of Tufnell. marched to the middle.

He stood firm as the Victorians loudly claimed a bat-pad catch; he hit the ground in shock and pain when an attempted slower ball from O'Donnell hit him full toss in the ribs. But he strode off again with a defiant smile, Victoria having failed to turn England's latest drama into one more crisis.

VICTORIA: First Innings 441 for 7 dec (W G Ayres 139, D M Jones 110, G M Wate

65).
Second finnings
G M Wetts b Malcom
W G Ayres c and b Tufneli
DS Lehmenn c Russell o Malcolm
J D Skidons st Russell b Athenton
"S P O'Donnell b Tufnell
†D S Berry c Atherton b Malcolm
M G Hughes not out
P R Reiffel not out
Paras (to 5, nb 4)
Total (7 wkts dec)
DW Fleming and PW Jackson did not
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-9, 2-9, 3-29, 4-1
5-129 6-134 7-134

BOWLING: Malcolm 23-4-62-4; Biclosell 9-1-37-0; Tutnell 24-4-60-2; Atherton 8-0-ENGLAND: First Innings *G A Gooch run out M A Atherton c Lehmann b O'Donnell 73 A J Stewart c and b Flerrang ______1 J Lamb c Reiffel b Jones . C Russell & Berry & Hughes I Gower & Hughes R A Smath not out

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Lating article, page

in interview

G C Small not out Extras (b 5, tb 3, w 1, nb 8) FALL OF WICKETS: 1-20, 2-21, 3-219, 4-225, 5-227, 6-259. BOWLING: Hughes 23.5-6-62-2; Fleming 19-4-53-1; O'Donnett 16-1-65-1; Reiffel 22-8-82-0; Jackson 13-2-75-0; Jones 1-0-

Second Innings "G A Gooch c O'Donneil b Jackson M A Atherton c Fleming b Hughes A J Stewart b Jackson D I Gower c Berry b Fleming	
M A Atherton c Fleming b Hughes A J Stewart b Jackson D I Gower c Berry b Fleming	_
M A Atherton c Fleming b Hughes A J Stewart b Jackson D I Gower c Berry b Fleming	3
D I Gower c Serry & Fleming	
D I Gower c Serry t Fleming	Ų.
D A Smith pol Cut	5
LILE CHANGE INTO PARE THE SECOND COMMUNICATION OF THE PERSON OF THE PERS	5
tR C Russell b Jackson	1
G C Small c Lehmann b Jackson	d
M P Bicknell c and b Hughes	1
D E Malcolm not out	4

A J Lamb and P C R Tuthell did not bet FALL OF WICKETS: 1-20, 2-39, 3-71, 4-139, 5-163, 6-163, 7-188. BOWLING: Hughes 20-4-42-2 (1 nb); Reming 15-4-50-1; Jackson 21-7-62-4; Reiffel 11-4-29-0 (1 nb); O'Donnell 4-0-16-Umpires: L King and D Holt.

Test preview, page 24

RFU irons out an all-white issue

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

the England team appearing in projects. anything other than a can take it that England will at the collar or cuffs.

continue to play in white." The report arose because commercial in Scotland and Wales, are elopment situation", which considering the commercial had not yet been placed before burgeoning leisure wear in- considerable amounts of dustry. Rugby shirts have money to be tapped into, been a substantial ingredient Coley said. "We are in that industry - the RFU contemplating building a new sell between £40-50,000 worth stand at a cost of £25 million a year through their own shop - and Wood said: "We aren't particularly keen on seeing all and sundry able to buy and

wear England shirts." the RFU are to register the duty to do." Wood said. rose symbol, which has al-

THE Rugby Football Union ready brought them a healthy (RFU) moved swiftly yes- income from overseas when terday to deny the prospect of used in various marketing

The debate on the appearpredominately white jersey, ance of England players on After a report during the match day centres on a shirt weekend that a break with upon which the RFU seek tradition was imminent, Dud- copyright, which would preley Wood, the RFU secretary, vent unauthorised replicas said: "England will play in being sold. That would necestheir normal shirts during the sitate some slight differenti-(five nations] championship ation to the present all-white and whatever happens you shirt and shorts, conceivably

Michael Coley, the RFU the RFU, like their opposites described it as a "devopportunities available via the the committee. "There are within the next few years and this could help."

It is difficult to understand why any of the unions should be apologetic for having to There has been nothing to raise funds for the sustenance diffe McEl stop the trade, however, and and development of the game. the prospect of raising consid- "We are seeking ways which erable sums for the game is an don't damage the image of the obvious attraction. The Scot- game but which will generate tish RFU registered a new money which, as a non profitthistle design last month and making organisation, it is our

Wasps in form, page 23

Sport on Boxing Day

BOXING Day is one of the busiest days of sport in the year with a full programme of racing. League football and club rugby. England's cricketers will be embarking on the second Test match against Australia in Melbourne, attempting to square the Ashes series.

The Times is the only quality newspaper available on Boxing Day and will be the only one to publish the full up-todate cards for the eight race meetings with the latest jockeys plans. Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent, will report on the mood of the England camp after a Christmas Day in the nets and there will be preview of the day's football and rugby. Demand will be high so order your copy today to be sure of the latest sports coverage.

Help a blind

woman see in time for Christmas

£12

In India, Africa and other developing countries, there are thousands of elderly people like her. She suffers from cataracts of both

eyes. Leaving her blind and totally dependent on others. But she doesn't have to be. Just £12 from you, a ten-minute

operation, and this Christmas she will be given back her sight. What better gift? Please return the coupon with your donation now. Help the Aged, St. James's Walk, London, ECIR OBE

want to give the gift of sight ☐ £12.00 (Pays for a cataract operation to restore sight in both eyes)

£24.00 (Pays for cataract operations to restore sight for two people in both their eyes) Money is also needed for tackling

some of the causes of blindness malnutrition, poverty and bad hygiene. I enclose my cheque/postal order for _to: Help the Aged, Project 900615 , FREEPOST, London EC1B 1BD Or charge my Access/Visa Card Number:

Signature:	
Name (Mr.Mrs.Miss.Other):	
Address:	
Fostcode:	Help the Aged

land manager and once an shot struck the bar. Manager awaits fate after bar incident

HARRY McNally, the manager of Chester City, will learn this morning whether he is to be dismissed for his part in an incident which occurred in a bar last week (lan Ross writes). McNally and Keith

wich City and Sunderland

forward who recently joined

the third-division club from

Walsall, were each fined four

weeks' wages on Friday. Both

had been admitted to hospital

after a players' Christmas

Bertschin, the former Nor-

party on Wednesday evening. McNally met with Ray Crofts, the Chester chairman. yesterday, and an official club statement is expected at lunchtime today.

"I have had to fine both of them for the part they played in an unpleasant incident," Crofts said. "My decision was not taken lightly but I had to show the public that something was being done. We can't let this go on at a club

Beckenbauer changes status at Marseilles

BONN (Renter) – Franz Beckenbauer, the former West German football manager, says he is to shorten his stay at the French club, Marseilles, and will hand over training to Belgian manager.

In an interview published in the German newspaper Welt Am Sonntag, Beckenbauer said he would stay on as technical director but was ending his contract on June 30, exactly a year earlier than

Beckenbauer, who guided West Germany to victory in the World Cup on July, said he would be handing over the training of the tcam to Goethals after Marseilles's match Raymond Goethals, once the against Caen yesterday, which was a goalless draw.

Welt am Sonntag said Beckenbauer's relations with Bernard Tapie, the club's owner, were near freezing point and that his decision to stay at the club at all was surprising

אמינין יש קווומון פספ

Burke: 4

Family to se